

Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

DISENDOWMENT AND JUSTICE TO IRELAND.

SIR ROUNDELL PALMER, in a speech to his constituents, having referred and replied to some remarks of ours upon that passage of his printed address which announced his objection to the policy of disendowment as proposed to be carried out towards the Irish Church, will not take exception, we trust, to a further attempt on our part to justify our criticism. We venture upon that attempt solely with a view to public interests. We are not ambitious in so grave a matter to win a barren argumentative victory. We could be well content to leave the matter as it stands, even at the hazard of being thought to be silenced by the heavier metal of the accomplished lawyer, but for the practical consequences which, in our judgment, would ultimately result from the legislative adoption of his advice. In view of these consequences we feel bound to reiterate our protest; to declare that his reasoning appears to us to fall short of the mark at which he aims; to point out in what respects it does so; and, as far as we are able, to divest the controversy of some of those current fallacies which, however they may satisfy the legal mind, ought not, we submit, to be allowed to guide the policy of a statesman in dealing with a great imperial question.

The right hon. gentleman cannot understand how we can connect together the necessity of complete disendowment and the cause of justice to Ireland. If justice really demands the diversion of ecclesiastical endowments from the Protestants in Ireland to purposes of general utility, he says, and we unhesitatingly believe it, he would be prepared to make the sacrifice. But endowments are not, as such, unjust sources of revenue. In the case of the Irish Church, they are, and for three centuries have been, in the possession of the members of the Protestant Establishment. They meet a want; they are legitimately used; there is no competitor for them. They are a charge, for the most part, upon the estates of Protestant proprietors. They have encouraged both expectations and habits which will render the loss of them a hardship—and the taking away of these endowments for mere taking away's sake, without even having settled to what other uses they are to be applied, and when they are serving a desirable end, is not so much disendowment as confiscation.

This whole train of reasoning appears to us to proceed on a tacit assumption that what belongs to the whole people of the country may justly be disposed of, once for all, on the ground of considerations applicable to but a small minority of that people. Sir Roundell Palmer's mode of putting the case of disendowment almost loses sight of the fact that the revenues proposed to be withdrawn from ecclesiastical uses really belong to the Irish nation. Because one-eighth of the people attached to Protestant Episcopalianism have been in exclusive possession of those revenues for their religious purposes during the last three hundred years, while the remaining seven-eighths were kept out of all share of them by the strong hand of law, not to satisfy the claims of justice, but to give effect to a policy which all parties now admit to have been unjust, the learned gentleman seems to imply that the seven-eighths have lost no small part of their claim to be considered in the reappropriation of those revenues, and that the one-eighth have acquired from the exclusive use of them through so long a period of time, an all but irrefragable claim to retain so much of them as will meet their wants. The State, at the time of the Reformation, adopted a certain line of policy in reference to Ireland, which the State in the present day acknowledges to have been a disastrous mistake. In pursuance of this policy it transferred to the sole use of a small section of the people large resources which till then had been employed for the benefit of the whole. With the abandonment of an unjust, irritating, and utterly unsuccessful line of policy, the funds by which it was sustained revert to the nation, and may be applied to purposes in which the nation, as a whole, would be interested. Sir R. Palmer professes himself unable to make out how justice is concerned in ceasing to appropriate to the few the endowments which are the property of the many. "It is not a question of competing claims," he says—"the Roman Catholics don't ask it; they don't claim it; they don't wish it; they rather repudiate it." Well, but what is it that the Roman Catholics don't ask, don't claim, don't wish for, but repudiate? Is it not the application of these funds in whole, or in part, to any ecclesiastical uses of their own? Have they renounced their right to any advantage they may derive from other than an ecclesiastical application of them? May not the whole of them, as well as a surplus, be devoted "to purposes of public utility"? How, then, can the learned gentleman pretend that this is a case in which there are no competing claims? Only by taking for granted that the revenues in question are applicable solely to ecclesiastical ends. But to determine that, is to perpetuate the original injustice. It is to attach such conditions to the employment of property which belongs to all, as will have for their result the necessary appropriation of it for the exclusive benefit of the few; and because the majority cannot comply with the conditions, to assume that there are no competing claims. But, in truth, there are competing claims—the claim of the great bulk of the people on one side, and the claim of a narrow section of them on the other.

Sir Roundell Palmer's argument would, no doubt, tell in a court of equity. Here is a good original title in law; here is long possession; here is no serious misapplication or abuse; here are wants not disproportioned to the means pro-

vided for meeting them; here is no competitor; and, finally, here are funds mostly accruing from estates in the hands of Protestants, employed to secure objects dear to Protestants. But this is not the kind of reasoning which should sway a statesman's decision. Valid for the administration of law as it stands, it is not valid for the determination of whether the policy of which the law is but an expression ought to be continued. The statesman has to regard wider considerations. In a court of equity, Protestant Episcopalians might show, as Sir Roundell has done for them, that they have done nothing to forfeit the exclusive use they have had of national property. But the statesman has to determine whether the exclusive use of national property by and for a small section of the community for their ecclesiastical ends is a politic arrangement; whether it promotes imperial unity, social harmony, popular tranquillity; material, moral, and intellectual progress. If he finds that it has not done this, but much the reverse of this, he may reasonably turn to that small section and say, "The policy which placed national funds at your disposal must be put an end to. You will be deprived of your privilege, not for having abused it, not because you do not value it, not because, by any conduct of yours, you have forfeited it, but because imperial policy, better understood now than it once was, condemns exclusive privilege in regard to religious affairs as the parent of evils which cannot be longer tolerated. All personal and vested interests will be respected—the transition from exclusive privilege to equality will be effected in the kindest manner; but you must not expect a permanent retention of national funds, nor to carry away with you, for your own use, rights of property which equally belong to the rest of the population."

What is it that Sir Roundell Palmer asks? Here are resources belonging to the whole people which he distinctly declines to bestow upon the Roman Catholic Church, and which he wishes, in part at least, if not in bulk, to retain for the Protestant Church. He will not consent that the Legislature should do for one Church what he asks it to do for another. He pleads for the perpetuation of the same policy of ecclesiastical favouritism which has been Ireland's bane from the beginning. The people of England and Scotland distinctly refuse to endow the Roman Catholic faith in Ireland, and the member for Richmond concurs with them in their decision. It is nothing at all to the purpose that the Roman Catholic Church repudiates endowment in Ireland. If it would accept it, Sir Roundell Palmer would agree with his countrymen in declining to give it. But that which he will not acquiesce in for the majority of the nation, and on ecclesiastical grounds, he is anxious to bestow upon a minority of the nation. And he cannot see that this is a difference which contravenes Mr. Gladstone's policy of conciliation, or which involves any question of justice. Let him look at the case once again! Let him keep conspicuously before his mind the consideration that in dealing with the endowments of the Irish Church he is dealing with what belongs to the whole Irish community. And let him resolve the simple question whether, in appropriating the bulk of it to the permanent and exclusive use of a small minority, he would do that which is honest or fair, or statesmanlike!

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

Two papers which have appeared within the last few days in the *Times* and the *Saturday Review* respectively, are calculated not only to widen the range of ecclesiastical controversy, but to prepare the English mind for the inevitable step of the disestablishment of the English State Church. The first is from the prolific pen of "S. G. O.," who writes to the *Times* to express his conviction that the disestablishment of the Irish Church will place the English Church upon her trial. "S. G. O." enlarges at some length upon the disorganised condition of our ecclesiastical Establishment, and upon the necessity that exists for its reformation. In connection with this he puts questions which are familiar enough as coming from Dissenters, but which have tenfold force when put by a Churchman. He asks whether the Church has gained the affections of the people, and whether, as a whole, it has worked to their edification or to the furthering of the honour of God. Then he asks, What and where are its laws and its doctrines? He believes that there is yet time to save it, but he is convinced that unless reform comes from within attack will come from without, and then the attempt to reform may destroy her altogether. We are at some loss, in reading "S. G. O.'s" letter, to know whether he writes of the Church as an Establishment or as a simple ecclesiastical community, but we judge that he looks at it in the former aspect only. In that case what he says is true, and it is forcible as it is true. The writer of the remarkable letters which appear over "S. G. O.'s" signature, has, for a Churchman, the rare faculty of catching the drift of opinion in his own community. It is sometimes difficult to say what the opinion of the public is upon any question that has been over and over again discussed, but it is far more difficult to catch the drift of that opinion, to discern, that is to say, not the way that it has gone, but the way that it is going. "S. G. O." has, in respect to ecclesiastical matters, this rare faculty. What he writes is pretty sure to be the generally expressed opinion a few months after he has written. Certainly he assists to form this opinion, but it is as more certain that he has the power of discerning it before it is really formed. We therefore value his letters beyond most similar communications and the appearance of the present one is one amongst many, indicating that Churchmen will soon begin to talk about the necessity of Church reform. But it is equally certain that they will talk in vain. The sects were never so estranged from each other as are the different sections of the Establishment, and it will be impossible to get those sections to any agreement upon Church reform. They will quarrel and quarrel, and in the end she will be simply, as "S. G. O." indicates, "an object of compassion." Let us add that "S. G. O." deserves thanks for hastening this catastrophe. We do not say this in any unfriendly spirit; for when the Church shall be an object of national compassion, she will for the first time in her history be an object of national love.

The *Saturday Review* looks at all such questions from a very different point to that taken by the *Times* correspondent, but in an article on Dr. Pusey's letter, reprinted elsewhere, it comes to somewhere about the same conclusion. The *Review* looks upon this remarkable letter as a virtual offer on Dr. Pusey's part, to co-operate in the work of disestablishment. At the same time it directs attention to the manner in which a section of the High-Church party have been familiarised with the idea that disestablishment may not merely be possible but desirable and "inevitable." It is now "a practical question" with them. We agree that it is so, and we can tell the *Saturday Review* that its statement of the fact does not a little to hasten the "inevitable" end.

We are glad to see, from the pen of one dignitary of the Irish Church, a calm discussion of questions which now occupy the chief attention of the people. The Dean of Elphin has written a letter to the secretaries of the Dublin Protestant Defence Association in favour of the disestablishment of the Irish Church. The principal importance of this letter consists in its arguments, for it does not derive much increased weight from the official position of the writer, excepting as regards the fact of his being a clergyman of the Endowed Church. An Irish is not exactly equal to an English Dean, and the Deanery of Elphin is not quite as important as the Deanery of Hereford or Carlisle. The Dean is, in fact, a country incumbent, and no more. But his letter is perhaps the most weighty contribution to the Irish Church controversy that has yet been made. Dean Warburton simply "doubts" the pro-

priety of disestablishment, and only deprecates entire disendowment, but he looks upon neither with apprehension. "For," he says, "when I look back to the history of the early Church, I find that 'the Word of God mightily grew and prevailed,' not only without State support, but in spite of State resistance. Nay, the direst persecution did but tend to promote her success; so much so, that it became a proverb that 'the blood of the martyr was the seed of the Church.' There is no doubt that a union with the State is inconsistent with that full measure of liberty which the Church enjoyed in the earlier ages." He adds that, while he anticipates some evil from the proposed measures, he also confidently looks forward to a great amount of good.

These measures (he says) will tend, I trust, to unite in the bonds of Christian fellowship and love all who hold the great and fundamental doctrine of salvation by faith in the atoning sacrifice of the Redeemer, and who insist on the right (and the duty) of private judgment. The minister of the Episcopalian Church will no longer look with suspicion on that of the Presbyterian or Independent, or forbid him to preach the Gospel because he "followeth not us." Nor will the ministers of the latter Churches envy those of the former when they cease to be fostered and supported by the State, and thus Protestants of all denominations will exhibit the goodly spectacle of "brethren dwelling together in unity." They will be a firmly united phalanx ready to resist with spiritual weapons only the common foe. They will discover that "in union there is strength"; and aiding and encouraging one another, they will go forth to battle and to victory in the name of the Great Captain of their salvation, giving a practical refutation to the calumny that they are fearful or disbelieving, as though the truth were in danger of perishing or could not prosper by the grace and power of God without State support.

To the Dean of Elphin we may add, on the same side, one clergyman. Last week the Rev. John Bramston, Vicar of Witham, spoke out upon it. Expressing his concurrence with Mr. Gladstone's policy, he said that there ought never to have been a State-Church in Ireland. He hoped that the nation would "deal generously" with the Irish Church—which it will; and, with regard to disestablishment, he believed that it was "looming in the distance for England as well as for Ireland, and that the time would come when that question would be discussed through the length and breadth of the land." The Irish Church, he added, was only "a mockery of the union between Church and State."

Dr. Pusey's letter has called forth a vigorous remonstrance from one of his own party. In a letter to the Doctor, printed in the last *Guardian*, the Rev. J. W. Burgon, of Oriel College, plainly writes to his friend of his proposal of general endowment of sects in the Universities,—"I freely declare that of all the wild expedients I have ever seen committed to paper by a good man, I never in my life met with anything more wild, more impracticable, than this to which you have subscribed your honoured name." But we gather that some of this opposition originates in the narrow sympathies of the writer. Dr. Pusey is characteristically a broad-hearted man. The Christian affectionateness of his nature is the quality which attracts to him men of all sects, who, while widely differing from him in opinion, unite in reverence of the catholic nature of his piety. But Mr. Burgon does not sympathise with this catholicity. He therefore writes,—"With Rome, until she revokes her blasphemous dogma of 1854, there can be no concordat. With Dissent, so long as it remains Dissent, there can be no compromise. There must be no sitting on the same platform with Methodists on the one hand; no ignoring of our differences with the Papists on the other." And with jealous acerbity he adds:—

Whereas certain of the Wesleyan body are reported to have said that "all they ask for themselves is fair play and no favour,"—they are requested to observe that that precisely is all that the Church asks for herself, but finds it impossible to obtain. She has need at this present time of at least fifty more chief pastors; she is not permitted to have so much as one. And yet all she asks is to be permitted to pay him herself, without any help whatever from the State. Church-rates (her own immemorial inheritance) have been recently taken from her. Convocation was suppressed until yesterday. Not so the Wesleyan Conference. And yet Convocation is coeval with the House of Commons, and has constitutional rights of its own. Let me be shown how all this is consistent with the principle of "fair play and no favour."

Really! The Church of England has not only "no favour," but it hasn't "fair play"! How differently do men read not only history past, but history present!

The *Daily Telegraph* continues to insert correspondence respecting Dissenting ministers' incomes. Indeed this question has been prolific of even more letters than the price of bread, or the respective advantages of celibacy and matrimony. There is a good deal of trash in some of these epistles, with some malignity and some prejudice, but there is also some sound common-sense. This quality is

especially treated by a correspondent in yesterday's paper, who writes as follows:—

Here are my remedies for the evil complained of by your correspondents. In the first place, gentlemen of the Establishment, give us fair play. Don't try to entangle our simple villagers, and then scoff at them for falling. Don't take the custom of the hall from the poor butcher and grocer because they don't worship God in your fashion, and then with affected surprise exclaim, "What a remarkable thing it is these plebeians don't support their ministers better!" Don't put clauses in your leases preventing the exercise of any religious zeal in your tenants. In a word, mark one of the wisest and best men among you, Dean Alford, and treat your fellow-Nonconformists as brethren, with all courtesy and deference to their religious liberty.

Secondly. Get rid of the notion that it was not respectable of the Apostle Paul to continue tent-making after he had been promoted to an apostleship. If a man in a country village, where it is desirable to have a separate place of worship, but the population is scanty, finds it hard to make ends meet, let him take up some secular calling, for the benefit of his family and the assistance of his people, and preach the Gospel on the Lord's Day. Peradventure his preaching might be much more powerful to rescue souls from the Devil than the scholarly twaddle which many highly educated young parsons now squirt at Satan, under the delusion that he is as afraid of holy water as he once is reported to have been. Scholarly men you must have here and there I grant; and Nonconformists are not afraid to measure swords in this respect, although they have been kept out of their national universities for centuries, and so put at all possible disadvantage. But in these said villages you do not need high scholarship; and a hearty Christian man, with reasonable education and Biblical study, and the gift of speech, may be trusted to train souls for the service of God here and hereafter, though he never knew the difference between *nunc* and *jam*. Get rid of the superstition that still lingers round the Christian ministry as a Church order. Substitute for that superstition the ennobling belief that the Spirit of God makes His own selection of the men who shall serve Him, and that Christian men, in proportion to their Christianity, are able to recognise the Divine seal, and know whom God has chosen as bishops of souls. And add to this the belief in the dignity of all honest labour. Return in all humility to apostolic example, and, instead of proudly starving on 50*l.* a year, keep a shop or turn a penny in any honest way; and sympathise with the pride of Paul, who rejoiced that he made such a good income by tent-making that he wanted no help at all from his poor converts.

Thirdly. Let every minister who is starving leave the ministry for something more profitable, if he can. No man is bound to starve in a pulpit.

Fourthly. Where it is practicable let small churches club together for the support of an educated man, and make more use of lay preachers.

Here I stop. The question of so far imposing a moral limit to the multiplication of free churches in poor districts as to render it difficult for any reckless project to obtain either help, recognition, or sympathy from the large neighbouring towns or country associations, and question how to support able men in localities where they must be regarded as missionaries *pro tem.*—to be sustained from a distant agency—are questions which I should have said might fitly be remitted to the various country unions of Nonconformists, did I not know that they have already long engaged attention in those quarters, and are in course of gradual solution.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.

This letter is signed "E. B." Its contents may be weighed with equal profit by Churchmen and Dissenters.

DR. PUSEY AND DISESTABLISHMENT.

(From the *Saturday Review*.)

Dr. Pusey's letter in the *Times* of last Saturday puts the question of college endowments in their relation to religion on a wholly new footing. As applied to the Universities, his proposal, as we pointed out last week, was open to an obvious objection. The Church was to make a gift to those who deny that she has anything to give. But the scheme, as developed by Dr. Pusey in his letter to the *Times*, is of much grander proportions than could have been divined from his letter to the Wesleyan Conference. It now appears as a design for redistributing ecclesiastical property, which, if once assented to, will be capable of indefinite expansion. Dr. Pusey looks far beyond the question with which he is actually dealing. He starts from the assumption that the severance of the colleges at Oxford and Cambridge from the Church of England involves the whole principle of disestablishment. He urges this not, as a mere Conservative tactician might do, to catch votes against Mr. Coleridge's bill, but as an argument for dealing at once with the ultimate question, how shall disestablishment be carried out? Dr. Pusey is not disposed to play the loiterer in the rear of revolution. He anticipates the coming shipwreck, and begins to cast about him beforehand for a raft on which the principles that he values may be borne safely to shore. What he says on these points is sufficiently important to be quoted at length:—

I certainly do believe that we are in a state of revolution, and that as a part of that revolution, in all human appearance, the days of Establishments are numbered, whether, in fact, the disestablishment comes a little sooner or a little later. I have for some time expected the Irish Establishment to be modified or abolished first, then the Scotch, then the English. I naturally do not wish for disestablishment, but it is well to be prepared for anything.

People's minds have been so occupied by the question between establishment and disestablishment that they have not faced the further question whether, if the Church should be disestablished, its funds should be secularised, or whether they should be so disposed of that all denominations should be equally endowed according to their importance and numbers. In Mr. Coleridge's bill it is tacitly assumed that so much of the

Church's property as is employed in University education should be secularised.

Such a declaration as this, coming from one who has hitherto been regarded as the leader of a great party in the Church of England, imports, or rather, perhaps, may eventually import, a new and momentous element into existing controversies. It is nothing less than an offer to co-operate in the work of disestablishment on condition that it shall be carried out in a particular way. Dr. Pusey believes the principle of secularisation, as applied to the Universities, to be so "pernicious, not to the Church of England only, but to religion generally," that he is willing to make even this sacrifice to avert such an application of it. All previous speculations as to the future of the Church of England seem antiquated in the light of this startling proposal. Politicians have reckoned that the English Establishment may last three years or thirty or three hundred, but these calculations have all been based on the hypothesis of an attack and a defence. Now we have one who has long been proclaimed the chief of one section of the garrison coming forward with an offer to capitulate on certain terms before the forces of the besiegers have been even marshalled. We do not presume to say what effect such a step may produce, but it is at least possible that five or ten years hence people may look back to the publication of Dr. Pusey's letter as a turning-point in the religious history of England.

We do not propose to touch upon the arguments by which Dr. Pusey defends his conviction that the time has come for such an offer to be made. There is no question that the passing of Mr. Coleridge's bill might be attended in some cases with considerable inconvenience and difficulty. We are inclined to think that Dr. Pusey underrates the extent to which similar inconveniences are experienced under the present system, as well as the possibility of guarding against them under the provisions of the very measure he so greatly fears. Our present object, however, is to examine what is involved in Dr. Pusey's alternative proposal. Allowing, for the sake of argument, that the mischiefs resulting from the repeal of the Act of Uniformity, so far as it relates to colleges, are as formidable as he represents them, and that they would be averted by the distribution of the existing endowments among denominational colleges, what is the probability of such a scheme being actually adopted? At first sight the difficulties in the way of such a settlement seem nearly, if not quite, insurmountable. Lord Mayo could tell Dr. Pusey something of the woes of a Minister who, in an unguarded moment, commits himself to a policy of "levelling up." On this point, however, two things may be said. In the first place, so far as regards Ireland, this policy has had to contend against unusual disadvantages. Mr. Disraeli played with it just long enough to make it unpopular, and the Roman Catholic hierarchy agreed in condemning it before it had been seriously formulated. It is possible, therefore, that under other circumstances even "levelling up" might meet with a different reception. A Minister who really believed in the project might find a good deal to say in its favour, and English Protestantism might be less alarmed at the change if only a small minority of those who could benefit by it were Roman Catholics. In the second place, Dr. Pusey's scheme is not identical with that which has been hinted at for Ireland. The fundamental idea for levelling up is to leave the Established Church in full possession of its revenues, and to endow other sects proportionately out of State funds. Dr. Pusey proposes nothing of the kind. It is only the existing ecclesiastical property that he wishes to see distributed among the various Dissenting bodies. The State would not be a penny the poorer by the transaction; the only loser would be the Church. Still the opposition to impartial endowment would be extremely strong, and we need not tell Dr. Pusey that it could only be overcome by very hearty and united action on the part of those who proposed it. He ought to know better than most men what chance there is of obtaining such support in the Church of England; at any rate he will find it out. All we insist on is that the very first thing he has to do is to satisfy himself upon this fact.

No doubt the idea of disestablishment has become strangely familiar to the extreme men of the High-Church party during the last two or three years. Dissatisfaction at the constitution of the supreme court of appeal has done much, and the irritation caused by that novel phase of Erastianism which finds so persistent and outspoken a representative in the *Pall Mall Gazette* has done more, to bring this about. Not long ago it was the rarest thing possible to meet with a clergyman who looked at disestablishment as in any way a practical question. The conviction in every man's mind seemed to be that the union of Church and State would last his time at all events. Now the tables are turned, and we have the strange spectacle of finding, not here and there a solitary fanatic, but quite a party among the clergy who appear to regard disestablishment as extremely probable, if not absolutely inevitable. This new-school clergyman's attitude in view of the coming future may be one of despair, or resignation, or even absolute satisfaction; but, whichever it be, the fact that it is coming is admitted to be a foregone conclusion. Still there is a great difference between a semi-fatalist acceptance of disaster and a voluntary movement to meet it half-way. The latter may be nine times out of ten is—the wisest course; but it needs an amount of resolution, and a capacity of acting on probabilities, which are not commonly found in any large and ill-organised body of men. And in this instance they will have but little time in which to grow accustomed to the idea. Mr. Coleridge's bill, if not a more peremptory measure,

will certainly be re-introduced next session, and the interval between its introduction and its passing the House of Lords—which can hardly be more than one or two sessions—is all that will be left to Dr. Pusey to convert the Church of England. It is but a short space, considering the work that has to be crowded into it. A couple of years to bring a great party in the Established Church up to the point of proposing its own disestablishment. For Dr. Pusey's scheme comes to nothing short of this. He must be prepared, as the only chance of success, to be taken at his word. It is the Japanese Happy Despatch, and nothing else. The proceedings of the Wesleyan Conference showed pretty clearly that proportionate endowment has no charms for Dissenters if it is applied only to the Universities. If they are to accept it at all it must be *en bloc*. In consideration of the principle being extended to all ecclesiastical property, the Dissenters might perhaps grow more willing to put up with its application to colleges. But we see no reason to suppose that they will make the concession on any cheaper terms. Consequently Dr. Pusey's disciples will have to follow him with their eyes open. His scheme, if it is seriously considered, must be gone into in detail at first starting. The whole value of the proposed concession lies in its completeness. If the Dissenters—who are either indifferent to a share in University endowments, or think themselves on the eve of obtaining it by their own efforts—are to stop short in the middle of the charge and consent to enter Oxford and Cambridge on terms which, however fair in themselves, have been proposed by the garrison and not by the besiegers, it can only be because they will thereby secure a share of other endowments, which without this consent might for many years to come have remained in the position of the Established Church.

But supposing—and a very wild supposition it is—that Dr. Pusey has not miscalculated his influence with his party, and that a large number of the Anglican clergy are ready to join him in applying the principle of proportionate endowment to the entire revenues of the Church of England, how would such an offer be regarded by the Liberal party in the country? Considering how much has been said lately against endowing more religions than one, and how much care has been taken to dissociate the case of the Church of England from that of the Church of Ireland, one might be inclined to predict that such a plan would be rejected almost without discussion. It must be remembered, however, that people are sometimes willing to accept in practice what in theory they would be altogether opposed to; and a settlement of the disestablishment question which could secure the support of the Dissenters on one side, and of the High Church party on the other, would have a very great claim upon that numerous section of Liberals who wish to see ecclesiastical disputes got as far as possible out of the way. The conditions, then, under which alone Dr. Pusey's scheme can be accepted as a conclusion of the whole controversy, are two. He must win over his own friends, for without their support it is hopeless to appeal to the Dissenters. And it is essential that this appeal should be made, because without the Dissenters he can never surmount the rooted dislike evinced by many members of the Liberal party to everything that savours of Denominationalism. Supposing these two conditions to be secured, the plan might not seem to be hopeless; and if the former were a certainty, the latter might perhaps follow more easily than may be now thought likely or possible. It is the first step in the process that Dr. Pusey will find most difficult. The miracle will be if he can so far influence the High Church party as to get the proposal seriously made. As the thing stands, either Dr. Pusey's position as a leader—and he has never yet shown in that way—is gone for ever, or he will have achieved such a revolution as the ecclesiastical world has not yet seen.

DISESTABLISHMENT AND DISENDOWMENT.

The *Spectator* remarks that a man is not always wise because he is always conscientious, and Sir Roundell Palmer's grand self-denial cannot blind us to the weakness of his proposals as to the Irish Church. The speech in which he expounded his views upon that great question to his constituents in Richmond may raise his fame as a Conservative lawyer, and will undoubtedly exalt his reputation for fairness and good feeling, but it will not deepen the Liberal faith in his capacity as a statesman. In answer to Sir R. Palmer's main argument, the *Spectator* contends that the only property of the Church which is in any sense private property consists of gifts from individuals, such as the Dublin cathedral, which may be said to have been "given" by Sir B. Guinness, and which no one proposes to take away. Were the question worth fighting, the *Spectator* would contend that this was State property, being, in fact, a gift to a department of the State, to be used as the State may choose; but that point is one settled by universal consent, and not worth serious discussion. But, says Sir Roundell, the property of the Church, however acquired, is property; and as it has not been misused, and as no decree of forfeiture has been pronounced against it, it ought to remain in the hands of those to whom it properly belongs. The contention of the Liberal party is that a decree of forfeiture has been pronounced by the nation, though not by a court, and that the property, therefore, reverts to the community which gave it; but even this argument is surplusage. The single necessary point is that the property was granted in trust for certain purposes, which purposes have not been and cannot be fulfilled, and the property, therefore, on the extinction of the life interests, reverts, like other pro-

perty without owners, to the State, which has as much right to dispose of it as of any other property similarly situated. That it will be highly expedient to dispose of it for the spiritual or intellectual good of the people we not only admit, but contend; but the State has a moral right, if it pleases, to pay it away in bounties to encourage the capture of sharks. There is no need to advance the extreme argument that all property, being the creation of law, belongs ultimately to the lawmakers, or to repeat Mr. Mill's admission, that Ireland can be pacified only by revolution. The Church, as a State Establishment, is a body entrusted with functions, just as much as the Custom House is, and when those functions cease the right to payment ceases with them.

The *Economist* thinks it impossible to lay down the rule that those in possession of State endowments are entitled to hold them until they do something to deserve forfeiture, and that the moment we seek to give Sir Roundell Palmer's argument a general application, which it must bear if sound, its invalidity is apparent. The only conceivable meaning of a public endowment is that the State appropriates a part of its estate for a certain service, and may dispense with the service whenever it pleases. If, instead of endowments, there were only charges on the consolidated fund, people would have no doubts, but the endowment is the same thing in reality; the difference is only in the form which the State adopts to pay for the service rendered. If the State pays for a coast-guard at a certain point, or "endows" a garrison town with a regiment, or establishes a lectureship or university at a given spot, the object is the welfare of the whole community; and the motive is the same when those paid are not soldiers, or coastguardsmen, or lecturers, but clergymen charged with the conduct of religious services. In all cases the State is the employer, and what it gives it may take away. The case is not altered because the benefit the State is to get is to be derived indirectly from the benefit, or supposed benefit, of certain of its subjects who may be designated the holders of the endowments. Suppose the owner of an estate to build a chapel on it, and pay a chaplain nominally for himself and dependents, really perhaps for an adjacent village whose inhabitants are allowed to attend the services, the villagers, it may be said, are the holders of the endowment, but both law and equity will permit the landlord to shut up the chapel when he pleases. Little need be said of the policy of disendowment in Ireland if the right is clearly made out. If it were a matter of indifference that the Irish Church should keep the endowments after being disestablished, it would probably be wisest to let it do so. But unfortunately disestablishment without disendowment will not accomplish the end desired—the removal of one Irish grievance. The national protest of Ireland against the establishment of an alien Church applies to the misappropriation of national property in endowing that Church quite as much as to other circumstances of the establishment.

The *Saturday Review* holds that the real objection to Sir Roundell Palmer's doctrine is rather that it is irrelevant than that it is indefensible. When a case is ready for trial it is useless to suggest that the issue might have been differently framed. The Liberal party has, under the guidance of Mr. Gladstone, resolved to abolish both establishment and endowment; and unless the Conservatives can win the general election, the change will undoubtedly be made. Sir Roundell Palmer's middle course will not be taken into consideration, and therefore it is worthless, except so far as it may satisfy his own conscientious scruples. A vote against Mr. Gladstone, by whatever reasons it may be defended, is a vote for Mr. Disraeli; and when a new Government is formed it will be a cause for regret if the most competent candidate for the woolsack is precluded from taking office by his preference for a political course which he must follow alone. It may be added that a scheme which is to be carried by popular support must not be too refined for ordinary comprehension. Disestablishment without disendowment would produce no visible or sensible effect, although in contemplation of law the condition of the Church would be fundamentally altered. In every parish a Protestant incumbent would still receive the tithe-rent charge, and the Roman Catholic clergy would be wholly unable to perceive that the position of their envied competitor was in any way affected. Mordecai clothed in sumptuous raiment would still provoke the jealousy of the Romish Haman, although the cryer no longer proclaimed that the income was allotted to the Church which the Queen delighted to honour.

"S. G. O." ON THE ENGLISH STATE-CHURCH.

In a long and conspicuous letter in the *Times*, "S. G. O." expresses his dissent from the opinion that the disestablishment of the Irish Church, as now proposed, is not significant of the approach of a day when the Established Church of England will be put upon her trial. He writes:—

I hold, and there are a vast number of thoughtful Churchmen who agree with me, that the time is at hand, and the event of a day may precipitate it, when the question will press—if a Church so fallen from its chief principle—as the will of the nation enforced that principle when it adopted it as the National Church—so utterly disorganised in regard of any obedience to authority, so incapable of preserving consistency in doctrine and in practice, is to be the one specially privileged Church, it must be again reformed, even if the process of its reformation should endanger its very existence; that it is neither creditable to Church nor to State that the present anomalous state of things should exist.

I am well aware that I shall be accused of great crime, or great ignorance, perhaps of both, for this my view. I shall be told that the Established Church is, in the

persons of its ordained and in the matter of all its creed, and ordinances, above all State interference; that it will betray its commission under the King of Kings, as the one true Church, if it for one moment allows any earthly power to restrict its authority or diminish by one hair's breadth its claim to interpret its ordinances, and to assert that its "orders" are so directly delegated from the Great Founder of Christianity as to admit of no human questioning in regard to the spiritual authority of all its ordained. I am content to incur this risk. I view the matter from two points of observation—as an Englishman and a member of the Church. I have to ask, Has this Church to which I thus belong gained upon the affections of the people, by evidence that, as a whole, as an institution, it affords them the example they expect from it, and does it as a whole work, as far as it is reasonable to hope, in harmony, to the edification of the people and the furthering of the honour of God? Or is it withheld, failing in these respects, because it is in its parochial aspect so interwoven with our whole social fabric, that being so, from the individual energy on the part of a large proportion of its ministers, it does effect, in one way or another, great national service? Has it done a value in detail which counterbalances sufficiently what it has lost in respect as a whole? I must, sir, admit that I have long come to the conclusion that the strength of the Church at this day lies, so far as the clergy are concerned, in a just value given to their work in isolation, i.e., that they have retained as individuals a power to the Established Church which she would have lost had she depended simply on her own Church platform. Can any institution, as such, be considered safe in this condition?

If I regard the Church from a simply clerical point of view, I am driven to the confession that we are fast arriving at a state of things which seems to my poor judgment altogether destructive of its institutional character. I cannot see who are its governors, who its governed; I know not where to look for its laws; I am utterly at sea as to its doctrines; I behold it at one time boastful of its elasticity—that lion and lamb may lie down together under its shelter; at another I see its lions quarrelling with each other as to the best means of devouring the lamb; and I hear in the bleating of these the voice of the lamentation which bewails that animals so violent should be allowed to exist at all. When I contemplate its claims to Apostolic succession, and yet see how the apostle is trained, and how, by interest or purchase, he, as the rule, gets his fold, and often at an age when he has no shepherd experience; when I know the fold cannot change him, or he, poor man, finding he knows nothing about sheep disease, cannot take to another profession, being tied for life by a tether he cannot break; when I see that for his life's peace he must but too often follow rather than lead his flock; when I know that, being still but a man, he may become a very wicked man, and that then, as such, the chiefs of the shepherds are almost powerless to remove him—he has a freehold in his flock—I own I ever tremble at the prospect of a day, if things continue thus, when the nation shall say the Church cannot demand deference for apostleship, respect for a Divine commission, when she thus permits the call to the office of an apostle to need so little qualification, and then leaves the called to work their own way, lose or keep their character, with no fear of interruption, teach what they may, or become unfit to teach at all.

I, sir, believe there is time yet to save the Church, but I am satisfied, unless reform comes from within, and that soon, the attack will be from without; and the attempt to reform will either destroy her altogether or leave her an object of compassion to all who ever loved her, of decision to her enemies. There are those who believe, because she has weathered many a storm, she is storm-proof. The limpet, bred on the rock to which as it grows it still adheres, adhering gains still stronger grasp, might boast of the storms which have launched their force against it, and yet never once disturbed its hold; rock-fast, it might thus argue, "I am rock-safe." I have seen a schoolboy with a rusty knife fill his pockets with them. The Church may well be warned—the schoolboy may be abroad; or she may be exposed to a storm, proving her rock was not real, but mere sandstone.

REJECTED ADDRESSES; OR, THE OLD DON AND MISS METHODIST.

(Respectfully dedicated to Dr. Pusey and the Methodist Ministry in Conference assembled.)

Where are you going to, my pretty maid?

I'm going to Conference, sir, she said—

Sir, she said—

I'm going to Conference, sir, she said.

Shall I write you a letter, my pretty maid?

Just as it pleases you, sir, she said—

Sir, she said—

Just as it pleases you, sir, she said.

Shall we make one of it, my pretty maid?

Name your conditions, sir, she said—

Sir, she said—

Name your conditions, sir, she said.

How about Oxford, my pretty maid?

The less on't the better, sir, she said—

Sir, she said—

The less on't the better, sir, she said.

As 'twixt me and Coleridge, my pretty maid,

Of the two, Mr. Coleridge, sir, she said—

Sir, she said—

Of the two, Mr. Coleridge, sir, she said.

Then I've nothing to say to you, my pretty maid?

Nobody asked you, sir, she said—

Sir, she said—

Nobody asked you, sir, she said.

—Punch.

"WILL POPERY BE STRENGTHENED BY THE DIS-

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE IRISH CHURCH?"—Under

this title Messrs. James Clarke and Co. (13, Fleet-

street) have published, in the form of a cheap tract,

an admirable letter to a Protestant gentleman from

the Rev. Edward White, which is well adapted for

wide circulation at the present time.

THE NEW BISHOP OF NATAL.—Dr. Gray, Bishop of Capetown, who was to have left England on the 9th of September, has postponed his departure, in order that he may proceed with the consecration of Mr. Macrorie, arrangements having been made for the performance of the ceremony in England. Nearly the whole amount guaranteed to the new bishop has been subscribed, but more money is wanted for clergy, catechists, and other persons who will assist Bishop Macrorie in his work.

THE REV. HUGH McNEILE, who has been appointed Dean of Ripon, is seventy-three years of age. He was born at Ballycastle, Antrim, took his degree of B.A. at Trinity College, Dublin, in 1815, and was ordained to a curacy in Donegal in 1820. He was afterwards presented to the rectory of Aldbury, in Surrey, and in 1834 he was collated to the district church of St. Jude, in Liverpool. This he resigned in 1848, when he was presented to the vicarage of St. Paul's, Prince's Park, in the same town, which he now leaves for the deanery of Ripon. Dr. McNeile, who was appointed canon-residentary in Chester Cathedral in 1860, is the author of many religious works, one of the most recent of which was a letter to Dr. Pusey on his Eirenicon published about two years ago.

BIBLICAL REVISION.—The Religious Tract Society is making an important contribution to Biblical Revision by the publication of a "Paragraph Bible with Emendations." The work is to be completed in six parts, two of which have already appeared, comprising the Pentateuch and the Gospels. The two leading points in which this work differs from ordinary editions of the English Bible are—(1) An improved form and arrangement of the Text; and (2) Emendations of the Authorised Version. The aim has been to give to English readers the benefit of all such emendations as have the sanction of the best authorities, and at the same time to avoid encumbering the work with any which are either doubtful or trivial. Explanations of obsolete words and translations of Hebrew and Greek proper names and phrases have also been added.

THE VACANT BISHOPRIC.—The *Imperial Review* believes there is no foundation for the report that the Dean of Norwich (Dr. Goulburn) is to succeed to the bishopric of Peterborough. The same authority understands that although no definite selection has yet been made, Mr. Gregory, of Lambeth, will most probably be the successor of the late Dr. Jeune. The *Record* says:—"It has been publicly announced that the Duke of Beaufort had recommended that Archdeacon Denison should be elevated to the see of Peterborough, and his Grace's recommendation is spoken of as almost equivalent to a command. We had been accustomed to associate the Duke of Beaufort's name with the turf and the hunting-field, or with legal proceedings in which the Brighton races and the pastimes of 'Aunt Sally' received a ducal explanation and a ducal celebrity. We never before heard of the Duke of Beaufort as a bishop-maker, or as at all skilled in theology or ecclesiastical affairs."

THE IRISH CHURCH AGITATION.—On Thursday night the Rev. Dr. Massingham delivered a lecture in defence of the Irish Church Establishment, at the Mansion House, Newbury, under the auspices of the newly-formed Constitutional Association. No resolution was put to the meeting at the close, as it was evident, as stated also by the mayor, who is connected with the association, that the numbers present were pretty evenly divided. On the following night (Friday) the Rev. C. Williams, of Southampton, delivered a reply, and the result showed that a more complete refutation could scarcely have been given. At the close a resolution condemning the statements advanced on the previous evening, and approving of the disestablishment of the Irish Church, was carried with only two dissentients. Cheers were given for the lecturer, the chairman (Mr. G. White), and the Liberal candidates for Berks (Messrs. Walter and Herbert).

DR. PUSEY AND MR. COLERIDGE.—The *Economist* says that Dr. Pusey and his followers have at last given up all the logical part of their opposition, and they are willing, out of what they call exclusively Church funds, to endow Wesleyan, Baptist, Independent, and even Socinian colleges. It requires a scholastic mind to see the real difference between this proposal and Mr. Coleridge's bill; only Mr. Coleridge does in a business-like practical way that which Dr. Pusey would do in a kind of mediæval way. If mischief comes to the Church of England it will be at the hands of its own friends. The very worst service they can perform to the institution they talk so much about is to seem even to screen it from criticism. Like every other existing thing, the Church of England must in these days stand or fall on its own intrinsic merits. There is no difference between theological truth and any other sort of truth. They are both the offspring of evidence, argument, and free debate. Special tests, exclusive endowments, and official precedence prove nothing, and do nothing but lay on those who claim or possess them the greater obligation to invite and answer upon its merits every reasonable objection. Dr. Pusey has turned Mr. Coleridge's bill already into an Act.

CHURCH-RATES.—A few days ago there was a meeting of the parishioners of Woolwich for the purpose of making a Church-rate under the new act. The rector explained the provisions of the new act, and said the whole machinery for making Church-rates had been retained, but that no proceedings could now be taken for making payment of them compulsory. Mr. W. P. Jackson moved that a Church-rate of 2d. in the pound be made to defray an estimate of 200*l.*, which was carried without opposition. The rector said there had been a voluntary rate in the parish since 1860. He assumed that the same class would pay the Church-rate first made

under the new act because there were a great many items involved in the Church-rates which really did not belong to the Divine service, such as ringing the bells for royalty, sexton, insurance, and many vestry expenses, and other matters which had nothing to do with the service of the Church. He trusted the rate just made would be received in a proper and friendly spirit. In Aylesbury circulars have been sent round inviting some of the parishioners to pay a "voluntary rate of 1s. in the pound towards the restoration of the parish church, for which purpose a sum of 600*l.* is still required."

THE CASE OF THE RECTORY OF TREGONY.—The Tregony church case, which was for so many months before the courts of law, and ultimately before the House of Lords, has now passed its final stage, an important principle of ecclesiastical law having been settled. The Rev. Mr. Marshall, the patron of the rectory of Tregony with Cuby, Cornwall, presented to it in 1858 the Rev. Mr. Reid, whose "letters" were not, in the opinion of the Bishop of Exeter, sufficiently countersigned by bishops, although they were duly signed by three beneficed clergymen to whom Mr. Reid was known. The Bishop of Exeter refused to institute him, and took no further notice of the matter, but at the close of six months claimed the living by reason of lapse, and collated to it the Rev. J. H. C. Borwell, a curate of the diocese. The patron took proceedings against the bishop, and the Court of Common Pleas held that the bishop had no right to interfere with the patron's privilege; that what the bishop asked for in the way of testimonials he was not warranted in insisting upon; and that he improperly refused Mr. Reid institution. The case went to the House of Lords, and their lordships, acting upon the opinion of the judges, decided that the Court of Common Pleas was right. Mr. Reid has now, therefore, just been admitted to the living after ten years' litigation, the patron having, after that long struggle, secured his legal right of presentation.

THE RECTOR OF WHITBY ON THE IRISH CHURCH AND MR. W. H. GLADSTONE'S ELECTORAL ADDRESS.—The Rev. W. Keane, M.A., the rector of Whitby, in view of the approaching general election, has issued a "pastoral address" to his parishioners, "On the canvass of W. H. Gladstone, Esq., for the borough of Whitby." The address is devoted to the Irish Church question, which the rev. gentleman believes will test the honour and honesty of every individual voter, and assail the integrity, spiritual welfare, and ultimate prosperity of the nation. The question, he says, is not one of reform but of destruction, so much the more effectual because gradual—a bleeding to death, so to speak, during the dying out of the present incumbents. If the Church were thus pillaged, he believes that neither Romanists nor Non-conformists would long retain their fabrics or endowments, and that if Church property be put up for plunder as an electioneering cry there will not be any future security for money in the funds or savings-banks. He regards the act in which the electors are invited to assist Messrs. Bright and Gladstone as a "great moral crime, a sin and sacrilege"; and on the approach of death, the guilt of such a crime as helping to destroy the Irish Church will come back upon their consciences as one of the worst acts of their lives. In conclusion he expresses confidence in the integrity and honour of the working men, who will for the first time exercise the franchise; affirms that "disendowment" will not "liberate" the Church, but make it a "bigoted and intolerant priestcraft," and adds that, if the Protestant Constitution is to be assailed, "let it be by Roman Catholics conscientiously opposed to our religion and polity, and not by men who, whilst remaining in our Protestant Establishment, openly show their design of betraying our institutions into the hands of the Papists. Not only the Church but our national Protestantism depends on the result of the next general election, and Whitby is called upon to take no insignificant part in the conflict."

THE CHURCH SOCIETY IN NEW SOUTH WALES.—A PRECEDENT OF THE IRISH CHURCH.—The society is managed by a committee, of which the bishop is the patron. The members consist of the licensed clergy of the diocese, twelve laymen chosen from amongst the members at their annual meeting, two members nominated by each parochial district subscribing not less than 200*l.* a-year, and one member from each parochial district subscribing not less than 25*l.* per year. At the annual meeting of the society each member subscribing not less than twelve shillings a year has a vote. This society was instituted in 1856 for the purpose of maintaining clergymen, catechists, and missionaries to the aborigines, and of building churches and parsonages throughout the diocese. It has succeeded in raising 84,000*l.* for these objects, and has been instrumental in opening 120 places of worship in different parts of the diocese. In every instance in which a new parish is organised the bishop appoints a clergyman on an undertaking by the parishioners that they will pay 300*l.* a year; not to the clergyman, but into the general fund of the society. From this fund 75*l.* is paid quarterly to the clergyman. It will be seen at a glance that this plan combines many of the advantages of the endowed and voluntary principles. While the clergyman is removed from the ignoble temptations of naked voluntarism, the bishop is controlled in the exercise of his patronage by public opinion, which is the very breath of the society of which he is the head. The success which has attended the operations of this society is mainly owing, according to most competent witnesses, to the due representation of every parish on the committee, and to the responsibility assigned to the laity in the administration of its funds. In Sydney, before these principles were acted upon, the subscriptions to the old society were

under 500*l.* a year. On their adoption by the new society they rose to 6,000*l.* the first year, and now vary from 8,000*l.* to 10,000*l.* a year. The whole income of the Church in Sydney, from all sources, is about 50,000*l.* a year. Surely there is ground for hope here. What has been done in Sydney may be imitated and surpassed in Ireland, where the members of the Anglican Church are three times as numerous, and where nine-tenths of the soil is the property of its communicants.—*"Philocelt," in the Daily News.*

THE COLONIAL EPISCOPATE.—A correspondent calls attention to some facts connected with the present state of the colonial episcopate. About the middle of last year, he says, Dr. McDougal resigned the bishopric of Labuan, and some time after was appointed by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster to the vicarage of Godmanchester. No successor has been appointed, and the diocese has long been without an episcopal head. Last year the Bishop of Mauritius came to England, resigned his see, and was appointed to the archdeanery of Suffolk and the rectory of Thwaite. Nothing is said about his successor, and that diocese, too, is without episcopal rule. Some months ago, the Bishop of Bombay came to England, and resigned his see. It is said that it has been offered to the Dean of Capetown, but there has been no official confirmation of the fact. Two years ago the see of Dunedin, New Zealand, was constituted, and a bishop consecrated in Canterbury Cathedral, but he has not yet gone to see his new diocese. The bishopric of New Zealand is vacant, and as there is no endowment there may be some difficulty in filling it up. Bishop Selwyn, who has gone out, will, however, probably make the necessary arrangements. The bishopric of New Westminster, which was announced two years ago as in course of formation out of the diocese of British Columbia, and for which Mr. Postlethwaite gave up a Yorkshire living on the understanding that he was to be consecrated forthwith, seems to have come to nothing, and the bishop nominate is still only a priest. For the see of Grafton and Armidale, New South Wales, vacant by the lamented death of Dr. Sawyer, no steps appear to be taken to provide a new bishop.—*Times.*

AN ESSEX CLERGYMAN ON THE IRISH CHURCH.—At a meeting held at Witham on Thursday last, the Rev. John Bramston, the vicar of the parish, said that as he had made up his mind to vote for Sir T. Western and Sir T. Abdy, it would have been cowardly on his part to stop away on that occasion. He looked upon Mr. Gladstone as a cautious Conservative statesman, and quite approved of the Reform Bill which had been introduced by him. It provided for a gradual extension of the suffrage. The Government bill was, on the other hand, admitted to be "a leap in the dark." He also approved of Mr. Gladstone's Irish Church policy.

There are many places where you cannot have an Established Church. There are the colonies. And the reason why it is impossible to have an Established Church there is, because on account of the variety of opinions held by the people, it is impossible to include them all in any State Establishment. And such is the case with the Irish Church. It must be remembered that within the memory of man, that is until the Act of Union was passed, the Irish Church and the English Church were distinct altogether. They had, indeed, strict communion and fellowship with each other, and I could heartily wish the different Churches throughout the great empire had more intimate fellowship and communion with each other than they have. (Cheers.) I do not profess to be a politician, but it seems to me that they never ought to have been united. (Cheers.) There ought never to have been a State Church in Ireland. (Cheers.) That was a mistake which was made at the commencement. But I have not told you the reasons why I support its disestablishment and disendowment. With regard to the disendowment, I do trust, if you send our friends to Parliament, that they will deal as generously as possible with the Irish Church clergy—(cheers)—that they will leave them as much revenue as possible for their support while they preach the Gospel in that country. (Cheers.) But with regard to disestablishment, there is a great question "looming in the distance" for us in England as well as in Ireland; it is whether it is a good or bad thing that the Church and State should be united. The time will come when that question will be discussed throughout the length and breadth of the land. (Cheers.) I am prepared to argue for the advantages of the union of Church and State, but at the same time if I have to argue the question, the fact of the existence of such an institution as the Irish Church would condemn this principle altogether. But, on the other hand, if there were no State Establishment in Ireland, then I contend that looking throughout the length and breadth of England the facts of the case will be my strongest argument in support of the principle of union between Church and State. Holding as I do that this is the great question looming in the future, I wish to be able to argue the question on sound principles, and not to have it thrown in my teeth that there is in Ireland such an Establishment as ought never to have existed, and which is a mockery of a union between Church and State. (Cheers.) Although I do admit most fully the great ability and consummate tact of Mr. Disraeli, yet at the same time I very much prefer the sound love of justice, the transparent earnestness—(cheers)—the unimpeachable sincerity—(cheers)—the unrivalled eloquence—(cheers)—the financial ability—(cheers)—and, above all, the religious convictions of Mr. Gladstone. (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

"POWER IN THE PULPIT."—The *Times* publishes an admirable letter signed "C," in reply to "S.G.O.," which thus sets forth the proper aim of preaching:—

I am persuaded that a radical error runs along both the able and earnest letters on "Pulpit Courage" and "Pulpit Cowardice." Both letters assume that to denounce vice and to eulogise virtue is the great mission of the pulpit, and that such treatment, as they both admit, has been inoperative and unsuccessful.

Let me inform these able writers that the continuation of this treatment will be followed by the same

results. Dr. Chalmers, on his induction to his first parish, finding his parishioners unusually immoral, resolved to bring all his eloquence and energy to bear on their character. He denounced in powerful language and with surpassing earnestness their vices and iniquities, week after week, in public and in private. His testimony is that they grew worse, not better. His own heart underwent a great change, and his long-cherished views a revolution. He reversed the order of his preaching. He preached the infinite love that gave a Redeemer to die for the guilty, fully persuaded that so great love from above would generate corresponding love in men's hearts below. It is on record that success attended this process, and that his parish became alike moral and exemplary.

I do not believe that Massillon, or any one like him, repressed one sin or reformed one sinner by fulminating against sins. I do not believe that you can scare men from sin by preaching hell, or win men to virtue by preaching heaven. Some get accustomed to it, and it acts like a lullaby. Others rise in insurrection against the idea that they can be bribed by the offer of heaven, or terrified by the threats of hell.

There will be no obedience to an exacting, or a promising, or a threatening law, unless there be wrought into the heart love to the Lawgiver. Love is the grace in the heart that translates itself into every virtue in the life, and effloresces into whatsoever things are just and lovely, and honest and good.

The Divine process for the restoration and renovation of men is therefore the inspiration of that love which is said to be "the fulfilling of the law."

How is this love to be imparted to human hearts? You cannot command it into human nature, nor threaten nor bribe it into being. How, then, shall it be introduced? We read, "We love Him because He first loved us." Our love is the effect, and the manifestation of His love is the cause.

Let me, then, ask "S. G. O." to embark his splendid talent and earnest heart in this neglected mission. Let him begin to preach, "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him may not perish, but have everlasting life." It is barely possible for human hearts to resist the mighty appeal that comes from that Judean hill on which one was crucified. It touches the most sensitive and susceptible part of our nature; it penetrates the heart like an aromatic perfume; and men that defy threats of hell and defeat promises of reward yield insensibly, but daily, to a warmth that fills their hearts with the temperature of heaven. It is also the Divine plan.

The essence of Christianity is a Divine manifestation of infinite love creating in human hearts responsive love, and this love awakened in the heart of the lawbreaker toward the lawgiver finds its supreme gratification in doing the will of Him who so loved us. Obedience thus generated is filial, not servile—spontaneous, not wrung forth by terror, and lofty, pure, and zealous. It is the absence of this element in our sermons that leaves so many correspondents to complain of the inefficacy of the modern pulpit.

HARVEST FESTIVALS IN BUCKS.—A correspondent writes:—"The good folks of High Wycombe, who met together on such amicable terms recently, sinking all religious differences, have set an example which is not followed by all their neighbours. Joyous harvest homes, celebrated in the parish churches, are all the rage; but none except the Established clergy must presume to take any part in them. The most Ritualistic of them is assumed to be an eligible representative of the Wesleyans, Baptists, Primitives, and Independents of the villages in which these gatherings usually are. There is one unsectarian feature, however, which should be borne in mind, viz., at these gatherings a collection is usually made in behalf of the funds of the Bucks Infirmary. At Whitechurch, near Aylesbury, where most of the inhabitants are Wesleyans, and where the vicar has to bear most of the cost of repairing the church and other expenses in connection with its services, consequent on his inability to obtain the necessary funds, a harvest festival was held on Thursday week. The Rev. T. J. Williams, rector of Waddesdon, preached a sermon on the occasion, after which a collection was made in aid of the Bucks Infirmary, which amounted to upwards of 7*l.* The church was prettily decorated, and upwards of 700 persons took tea in the vicarage grounds. At Weston Turville, near Wendover, there has been a double celebration consequent on the division between members of the Established Church and Nonconformists. Some three or four years since the rector of the parish saw fit to ignore altogether the minister of Union Chapel, and declined to allow that gentleman to take any part officially in the proceedings of the day on the occasion in question. The Dissenters in the village, being energetic and powerful, declined under the circumstances to act as Churchmen. The Nonconformist farmers have therefore had a celebration of their own. On Monday last they met to tea, of which more than a hundred persons partook, by the kind permission of Mr. S. Shirley (late secretary of the Band of Hope Union), on his lawn. In the evening a public meeting was held in the chapel, over which the minister, the Rev. J. Butcher, presided. Prayer was offered by the Rev. J. Page, of Wendover, after which the chairman gave an address, in which he expressed his regret that, in returning thanks to their Heavenly Father for the bounties of His hand, they could not meet on a common platform. He and his friends very much wished this could be so, and he hoped the next generation would be wiser than the present; everything was tending toward religious equality, and the time would come when, as they had free trade in bread, they would have free trade in religion. Mr. A. P. Scrivener, farmer, said the word had gone forth in the agricultural districts to take no notice of the Dissenters at all, and the clergy were working these harvest homes as a means of getting the people to church. He hoped the time would come when the connection between the Church and the State would be severed, and all sections of the Christian Church would meet on an equality, especially on such an occasion as that. (Hear.)

They had a worthy gentleman as rector, one whom he often had pleasure in meeting, but until he could treat them in the same manner as Dean Alford, he thought they had better have separate harvest homes. Mr. Clark, a representative of the labourers, and Mr. Shirley, addressed the meeting, after which Mr. Page, of Aylesbury, did so. He was satisfied the good time would never come till Church and State were severed. A collection was made, and the sum of 3*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.* was raised on behalf of the Bucks Infirmary. On the day following was held the festival at the parish church."

Religious and Denominational News.

The Rev. J. H. Gordon has resigned the pastorate of the Northgate church, Darlington.

DWELLINGS FOR MISSIONARIES.—The Rev. Dr. Duff calls upon the Free Church to provide at least 50,000*l.* for the purpose of erecting suitable residences for their missionaries in India. It is only a year or two since Dr. Duff raised 10,000*l.* for the establishment of a missionary chair in the Free Church College in Edinburgh.

CARDIFF.—The Rev. S. C. Burn, of Hope Chapel, Canton, Cardiff, has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to become the minister of Oakes Chapel, Lindley, Huddersfield. On leaving Cardiff, he was presented with a purse of gold, and Mrs. Burn with a handsome piece of drawing-room furniture, in token of the goodwill of those from whom they were parting. Oakes Chapel is a very handsome and substantial building not yet completed, and has been erected by the Baptist church and congregation now worshipping in Quarmby Schoolroom at a cost of 6,000*l.*

OLDHAM.—A few weeks ago the large room of the Wernth Mechanics' Institute, lately inaugurated by Mr. Gladstone, was rented by the church assembling in Union-street Chapel, Rev. John Hodgson, pastor, and on Sunday week was opened as a branch preaching-station by the Rev. F. S. Williams, of Nottingham, when collections were made towards the expenses amounting to 26*l.* This movement is intended to meet a want felt at that end of the town, where the increase of the population of late years has been very great. It is intended to commence a Sunday-school in the same building in a few weeks.

OPEN AIR MISSION.—On Monday evening the usual monthly conference of the members and friends of the mission was held in the hall, 3, Red Lion-square. The chair was occupied by Mr. Charles Douglas Fox. Mr. Harris B. Cowper opened the subject for discussion—viz., "The Common Objections of Infidels, and how to answer them," in a very able speech. Among those present were the Revs. Dr. Hewlett, Dr. Wrightson, G. W. McCree, D. Jeavons, R. Smith, C. Ough, C. J. Whitmore, J. Sinclair, and Major W. W. Beckwith, from New York, most of whom took part in the discussion. About 100 preachers were in attendance, and were supplied with several valuable works upon the infidel controversy.

ILKLEY.—The memorial-stone of a new Wesleyan chapel was laid in this flourishing Yorkshire town on Saturday by Mr. Edward Holden, of Bradford, in the presence of a large concourse of people, many coming from Bradford, Leeds, and other places. Mr. Holden, in the course of his address on the occasion, said he was a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Society; he had been brought up as a Wesleyan Methodist, as had his parents before him, and their parents before them. (Hear, hear.) He had the greatest respect for all Christian denominations—(Hear)—but he had no respect for any denomination that was connected with the State. (Applause.) He had no respect for any political church, he had only respect for God's church—the church that was established by the law of God. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He maintained that the Wesleyan ministers were as truly ordained men of God as were men by law established—(Hear, hear)—and he for one would never refuse to receive the sacrament at the hands of one of their own ordained ministers, let the *Church Times* or Churchmen say what they pleased. (Hear, hear, and applause.) In conclusion, the speaker called upon those present to make every effort in their power to extend Christ's kingdom. The Rev. S. R. Hall, President of the Wesleyan Conference, also addressed the assembly. Afterwards a large company partook of tea in a capacious marquee, where a bazaar had been held during the day; and at the meeting subsequently held, under the presidency of Mr. E. Holden. The chapel is calculated to comfortably seat 650 adult persons, 400 of whom are accommodated on the ground floor. It is estimated that the total cost of the building, exclusive of the land, will be about 3,500*l.* The land will be 1,000*l.* additional. Mr. E. Holden, of Bradford, with his father and brother, has contributed 200*l.* to the funds. At Ilkley also the Independents have opened a preaching room, and are building a capacious chapel.

BAPTIST FAST DAY IN SOUTH LONDON.—Monday was, according to previous notice, observed as a "local fast, accompanied by prayer and humiliation," in all the Baptist chapels on the south side of the Thames. The object was described as being to "seek the blessings of heaven upon the evangelical labours in the district." The services in most of the chapels commenced at seven o'clock a.m., and continued until seven p.m. The congregation at the Walworth-road Chapel, a newly erected, elegant, and spacious edifice, nearly filled the area, and numbered some 600 or 700 persons. The order of business at each place was pretty much the same. A president was appointed by previous arrangement for every hour, the whole time being occupied by prayers and hymns. The audience constantly changed, some going out after half-an-hour's stay, and others com-

ing to fill up their places. It was noticeable that during the earliest hour many working men, in their every-day clothes, entered with their pocket hymn-books, and left after a short participation in the devotions, although the well-known handkerchief (furtively carried), tied up by the four corners, and revealing the shape of the ill-concealed plate or basin, with the day's provisions in it, was not suggestive, at any rate in their case, of "fasting." The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, who was in the chair from eight until nine at the Walworth-road, said that the meetings then being held were an open declaration of their belief in the efficacy of prayer and its power in heaven. He trusted that in their supplications there would be no vain repetitions, no lengthy continuous sermonising, but that all would be brief, quick, and earnest. In his subsequent prayer Mr. Spurgeon expressed a strong desire that the world might not be permitted to think Christianity a worn-out thing of the past, and that if anything hindered the descent of the Holy Spirit on their churches or pastors, those with whom the fault lay might be severely chastened.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

A VISIT TO THE METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE.—A correspondent of the *Daily News*, who is a Churchman, went to hear Mr. Spurgeon on Sunday last, and records his impressions in that newspaper. He found the spacious building crowded with some six thousand people. The writer objects that the people did not kneel during devotions, and thinks Mr. Spurgeon's prayer was "very high and mystical, abounding with figurative expressions from the Hebrew poetry," and defective in the element of a tender, lowly human sympathy. The writer goes on to say:—"The singing is accomplished without instrumental aid, being conducted by a precentor, who stands beside Mr. Spurgeon. Of course under such disadvantages only slow tunes can be sung, but the voices were kept together much better than might have been expected. No psalm was read, and only one lesson, a portion of the Second Epistle to the Corinthians. Mr. Spurgeon is a good reader, and it was satisfactory to hear him give the hymns out himself. The sermon lasted just fifty-five minutes, and was taken down in shorthand, as all this preacher's sermons are, 'to be scattered by tens of thousands,' as one of the brethren informed me, 'wherever the English language is spoken.' The text was the Apostle Paul's protestation to the Corinthians, 'I die daily.' An hour all but five minutes had elapsed when Mr. Spurgeon began his sermon, and during all that time he had been using his voice, either praying, or giving out the hymns, for with the exception of the singing, he performs the whole service himself. Having read his text, he advanced from the side table, where his Bible lay, to the rails, on which he learned with both hands while uttering his first few sentences. He at once fixed the attention of the vast audience by connecting his text with common human experience, then set forth its original, heroic sense in the life of the apostle, and afterwards announced that he should treat it as of general application. The people listened with breathless attention from first to last, a fact which I commend to the attention of those who are telling us that sermons and preaching are out of date. For my own part, although I think I know where a brighter, more vivifying, and truer Gospel than that of Mr. Spurgeon is to be heard, I could have sat twice as long with pleasure listening to this preaching. Having said so much I am perhaps bound to state what I think are the elements of Mr. Spurgeon's popularity as a preacher. They are very simple, and may exist in other preachers; but it is their combination in a high degree in him which constitutes the attractiveness of his sermons. In the first place, he has a very definite and positive system of doctrine in which he thoroughly believes. He does not tell his hearers that different views have been taken of this and that doctrine, and that on a balance of opinions he has come to such and such a conclusion. There is only one truth which all persons are concerned to know, and it is his duty to preach it. It is more than his duty; it is evidently his delight. My experience is that the great majority of people like to take their religion on a strong assurance. In the second place, Mr. Spurgeon is evidently a happy man. He has good animal spirits to begin with. If at any time these have betrayed him into indecorum, certainly there was no tinge of it in his demeanour yesterday. The whole service was conducted most devoutly. Nevertheless, it is apparent that he is a happy man, and happiness is, thank God! contagious. In the third place, and most important of all, Mr. Spurgeon is a great master of the art of direct address. I have no doubt he considered the matter well before he abolished the use of a pulpit and substituted a platform. His sermon on Sunday was delivered to the people, not merely before them. The use of notes was out of the question, unless he had held them in his hands. Every word was spoken as from man to man, and every word was to the point. There was no resort to expletive, no use of padding. Every sentence contributed something to the effect which was constantly in the contemplation of the preacher. No one, I think, could doubt that Mr. Spurgeon was expressing, in virtue of his ready command of language, thoughts which he had thoroughly worked out in his study. I can no more believe that his discourse was delivered memoriter than that he spoke on the inspiration of the occasion. To speak of the substance of the discourse might lead me on to debateable ground; I will only say, therefore, that his matter was as abundant as it was pertinent. He made considerable but not excessive use of figure, introduced frequent illustrations from legend, natural history, and fable, and quoted George Herbert and other poets. At the close of the service,

which had lasted an hour and fifty-five minutes, I thought he seemed fatigued, as well he might be. On leaving the building I found a box into which every worshipper is invited to drop a penny for the support of Mr. Spurgeon's college, which is maintained at an expenditure of 5,000*l.* a year. A card over the box announced that on the previous Sunday 36*l.* had been deposited in these receptacles."

THE RELIGIOUS REVIVAL IN MADAGASCAR.—The September *Chronicle* of the London Missionary Society contains further details of an encouraging character. The Rev. W. E. Cousins, in a letter dated June 30, states that the Government is establishing itself firmly, and that its policy bids fair to be increasingly liberal. There is every reason to hope that Christianity will make even more rapid progress than it has done. "Never since we have been in Madagascar has there been such a strong feeling in its favour as at present. During the public mourning our congregations remained about the same as they had been; some were rather below the average; but on Sunday week—the first Sunday after the cessation of the mourning—our chapels were crowded to overflowing." He further states that the Chief Secretary of State and the Prime Minister's eldest sister attend public worship often, and that their example, together with the knowledge that the Queen and Prime Minister are favourably disposed to Christianity, has encouraged many to attend their chapels who had stood aloof as long as they thought there was any reason to fear. The chapels are too small for the press of hearers, and intended enlargements are spoken of on all hands. "Of course we rejoice in such a movement, but we are deeply sensible of the dangers that will beset our churches, as Christianity becomes more popular and fashionable. We rejoice with trembling, and we would wish our friends in England earnestly and frequently to commend us to the care of Him who can guide His people and keep them from harm." Mr. Cousins, as a sign of progress, mentions the rescinding of an old law which prohibited the erection of stone or brick houses within the walls of the city. "The richer people are all intent upon building brick houses, and a few years will probably make a great change in the appearance of the place. As an addendum to the permission to build brick or stone houses, it was also enjoined that all houses within the town shall be roofed with tiles." So that, if the Gospel is allowed free course, and the civilisation which it originates and fosters receives no check, in a few years we may see a new and civilised Madagascar. The Rev. R. Toy, writing three days later than Mr. Cousins, confirms the glad tidings which his letter announces. Writing of what more especially concerns his own sphere of labour, he says:—"The first Sunday after the close of the period set apart for mourning, my chapel, which had been well filled for several Sundays previously, became crowded to excess, whilst many sat round outside, and others went away to seek places in other chapels. Among those present were many of the Queen's household. Last week we knocked out the side-wall of the chapel, and carried the roof on to the wall of a yard opposite, enlarging the building sixty-four feet by fifteen feet. On the Sunday following the place was again crowded by eight o'clock in the morning, and many had again to seek places elsewhere. In the afternoon it was the same. The deacons counted the people as they left in the evening, and made the number to be 2,450 inside, and 230 outside. Mr. Toy further states that the Prime Minister's sister has been baptized, and is very anxious to be admitted to the church. She is taught every evening, in her own house, and has committed to memory a great deal of the catechism appointed for candidates. "Amparibe is crowded, and they have made a place for the people to sit outside under the verandah. Ambatonakunga Memorial Church was comfortably full last Sunday. I hear Mr. Pearce, at Analakely, is about to enlarge his chapel. The new chapel at Avarotrandohalo was nearly full. At Ankadibevava they have been obliged to enlarge the building very considerably, as the place has been crowded to excess." Mr. Toy says they hope, in ten weeks' time, the memorial church will be sufficiently far advanced to admit of its being opened for public worship. "Were it ready now it would scarcely be able to accommodate the crowds who wish to attend. In the country chapels there is the same eagerness to hear the Word of God. Some have already enlarged their chapels, and others are thinking of doing so. In one of the chapels in connection with that of Ambohipotsy, those who form the ordinary congregation turned out in a body last Sunday, and sat outside to allow the heathen to occupy their places. This earnest desire to hear the Gospel is not confined to one class or one locality, but seems to be universal."

THE TOMB OF WILLIAM RUFUS.—This tomb, in Winchester Cathedral, was opened on Thursday by order of the archdeacon in order to ascertain if there were really any remains in it, as popular opinion indicated that the bones had been taken from their first resting-place, and placed in one of the mortuary chests at the top of the side screen of the choir. If this had proved correct, the covering tombstone would have been removed, as it causes some obstruction to the full use of that part of the cathedral. Some bones, however, were found, and on being put together by Drs. Mayo, Langdon, and others, a slight deficiency was discovered, showing that they must have been disturbed at some time. The remains of what is supposed to have been the arrow with which the monarch was killed, and also a blue stone, were found in the coffin, which is hewn out of a solid block of stone, with a single heavy slab for the lid. It will remain in its old position.

Correspondence.

THE NONCONFORMISTS OF IRELAND AND THE GENERAL ELECTION.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—I have not seen your valuable paper for some time, and cannot say if you have drawn the attention of the Independent ministers of Ireland to their duty in view of the approaching elections. At a time when every vote is of importance it is to be hoped that all of them will be found supporting candidates pledged to support Mr. Gladstone in his anti-State Church policy. I have reason, however, to fear that some of them may either vote for candidates pledged to the present Government, or withhold their votes. Now, as a Nonconformist, I think this would be a great mistake, and I could think of no better way of influencing them than by your putting the matter before them in its proper light.

My excuse for troubling you is the interest I now and have always taken in the Liberation movement.

I am, yours sincerely,

JAMES WEIR.

Bessbrook, Newry, Armagh, Aug. 17, 1868.

THE CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGES BY NONCONFORMIST MINISTERS.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—The proceedings of the Wesleyan Conference for the present year, have received more publicity than usual, by the reports which have appeared through the columns of the daily press.

I must confess to some degree of satisfaction on reading, that the said Conference has deliberated upon the existing state of the marriage law, as it affects the celebration of marriages by ministers of Nonconforming churches.

Some of the Wesleyan ministers have found a solemn grievance from the circumstance, that the presence of the district registrar is essential to the validity of a marriage in places of worship licensed from the office of the Registrar-General.

Congregational pastors of the metropolis, and the provinces, feel the existing usage to be more than a grievance. It acts as a restriction upon liberty, and sometimes prevents the exercise of social, moral and religious influences where such are imperatively needed.

At the autumnal meeting of the Congregational Union (if I remember correctly), held at Halifax, the subject was spoken to by brethren from London and the country, who urged that a change should be made which would relieve the parties contracting marriage from the necessity of having at the ceremony the public officer. Such presence necessarily involves an item of expenditure which is not necessitated on parties going to the Established Church to be married. The fees in some cases for notices, certificates, and attendance of district registrar, amount to nine shillings. Those persons to whom such a sum is of consequence, usually attach much importance to the possession of "the marriage lines," for which two shillings and seven pence have to be paid, making a total of eleven shillings and sevenpence.

The Nonconformist pastor is unable to relieve the parties married of any of these charges, except by himself providing for them, which is not unfrequently done.

The clergy of the Established Church can at their discretion remit the payment of any sum. In the parish of Bethnal Green, parties can be married at St. James's the Great, without any charge whatever being made by the vicar.

No material change is needed as to the giving a notice at the registrar's office of the names of parties wishing to be married; but why not, on the notice being entered, then and there issue the certificate authorising the marriage to take place on and after a given date, say twenty-one days hence, if that time be considered the most appropriate, in order to prevent clandestine marriages? Within that time, should occasion justify, the registrar might annul the certificate.

The giving of notices, receiving the certificates, securing the attendance of the district registrar and of the minister, and obtaining permission for the use of the licensed building, may entail in some localities no fewer than seven journeys and the travelling of twenty, thirty, or more miles. To none of these inconveniences are parties subjected who select to be married at their parish church.

The *Times* of Tuesday, 25th August, puts the simple solution of these difficulties before its readers in the following remark:—

"Little objection can be raised, if not by ministers themselves, to the plan of extending the marriage registration system by converting the minister, of whatever religious denomination, officiating at a marriage into a district registrar."

To that suggestion might be added, if such minister elect so to be. Where preferred, existing arrangements might continue as they now stand.

The Registrar-General will state that additional work would be thrown upon the clerks of his office, and the correspondence would be greatly increased. Admitted, but an improvement would be secured, a great saving would be effected, at an insignificantly small cost.

Two objections will be started by some most respectable Nonconformist ministers. The first from fear, the second from dread.

1st. There exists a fear that some ministers would n

carefully keep the register. Juniors may ask whether they are not, as men, as competent to fill up a schedule and keep a registry as the class from which are taken the district registrars.

2nd. There is a dread of being considered under law to man as in opposition to the law of Christ. They do not dread all contact with law.

If they have not already subscribed to "An Act passed in the fifty-second year of the reign of King George the Third, intituled, 'An Act to repeal certain Acts, and amend other Acts relating to religious worship and assemblies and persons teaching and preaching therein,'" the subscription to be made in a Bishop's Court or before a Justice of the Peace, they ought so to have done. My own declaration bears date eleventh day of February, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five.

Our places of worship in which we minister are licensed twice before a marriage can therein be celebrated.

One more economical question presents itself, why is not our licence of a place of worship so worded as to include the permission to celebrate marriages? One licence serves for the Established Church, notwithstanding the respect which its occupiers have to pay to many enactments.

Now that the subject has been again brought under notice by a recent discussion, I hope that an improved arrangement may be made with the Registrar-General, that being all that is required to meet the case so that the ground of complaint may be removed. The subject might be gravely considered at the autumnal meeting of the Congregational Union to be held this year in Leeds.

Trusting that public sentiment will urge forward the desired relief, and that the question of the amendment of the marriage law as affecting free churches may not be consigned to the limbo of the new Parliament,

I remain, yours respectfully,

W. TYLER.

247, Hackney-road, August 26, 1868.

THE LORD-LIEUTENANT ON THE CONDITION OF IRELAND.

The Lord-Lieutenant and Duchess of Abercorn visited Londonderry on Wednesday. The freedom of the city was presented to his Grace, together with an address from the Corporation. He subsequently visited the cattle show. His Grace was most warmly received by the people. Lord Erne presided at the Agricultural Society's banquet on Wednesday night.

The Lord-Lieutenant, who was enthusiastically cheered, in replying to the toast of his health, said he valued the compliment paid to him as a landlord by the chairman, because it came from one who was himself one of the best and most intelligent landlords in Ireland. His Grace referred to the prosperous condition of the county of Derry, and of the north generally, as most instructive. They had a large population as compared with other agricultural counties, energetically pursuing a career of industry, living in peace and harmony; while the best relations existed between landlord and tenant. There was nothing essential in these conditions which might not also be made applicable to other parts of Ireland. His Grace spoke of the prospects of the harvest as being most favourable in every respect, except as regards turnips, and entered into statistical details of the agricultural condition of the country, dwelling especially on the fact that there had been an increase this year of 150,000 acres in land under tillage. He believed that the Irish peasant was better off now than in former years, and contended that the best way to counteract emigration was to construct improved dwellings and to give higher wages to the industrial classes. Certain atrocious outrages which have lately disturbed the public mind must be taken as local indications rather than as an index to the general state of the country. The gaols had not a single political prisoner detained under the extensive powers afforded by Parliament to the Irish Government. The courts of justice had not one political prisoner for trial. There was an absence of crime at every county assize. It might be hoped, consequently, that the flow of capital would return. He (the Lord-Lieutenant) could not find words to express his gratitude for the reception he had met with in Derry. Envious critics spoke of the Black North, but their kindness and the thriving and independent character of their people would be for ever impressed on his memory. There was no one who had studied history aright in whom a thrill of interest was not aroused by the recollections of their ancient walls, recalling as those walls did the struggle for liberty, the calm endurance, and the successful perseverance which had immortalised their city. He spoke to all parties alike, who, looking back through the clouds of nearly two centuries upon the deeds of their countrymen, were proud of the value, endurance, and hardihood of Irishmen.

Over twenty toasts were proposed. The Bishop of Derry and the Moderator of the General Assembly spoke. Nearly every speaker made an allusion to the railway accident, and the escape of his Excellency's family. The Mayor's dinner was attended by about 300 persons.

GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, CALEDONIAN-ROAD, N.—Number of patients for the week ending August 29, 1,260, of which 481 were new cases.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

CANDIDATES FOR SCOTLAND.

We publish below a carefully corrected list of candidates for Scotland. The names of new constituencies and candidates are printed in italics, and wherever there seems to be any doubt as to the number of members to be returned, the numeral is given. But it may be stated that no constituency, besides Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Dundee, returns more than one member. Scotland lost no seats by the Reform Bill, but the counties of Peebles and Selkirk were united into one constituency.

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|---|--|
| Aberdeen— Colonel Sykes (L) | Greenock— Mr. W. D. Christie (L) |
| Aberdeenshire, East— Mr. W. D. Fordyce (L) | Provost Grieve (L) |
| Aberdeenshire, West— Mr. M'Combie (L) | Haddingtonshire— Lord Elcho (L-C) |
| Argyllshire— Marquis of Lorne (L) | Lord W. Hay (L) |
| Ayrshire, North— Mr. Montgomerie (C) | Haddington, &c.— Sir H. F. Davie (L) |
| Ayrshire, South— Mr. Finnie (L) | Inverness— Mr. Mackintosh (L) |
| Colonel Alexander (C) | Invernesshire— Cameron of Lochiel (L) |
| Mr. Oswald (L) | Kilmarnock— Right Hon. E. P. Bouverie (L) |
| Ayr District— Mr. E. H. Cranford (L) | Mr. E. Chadwick (L) |
| Banff— Mr. R. W. Duff (L) | Kincardine— Mr. J. Dyce Nichol (L) |
| Berwickshire— Mr. D. Robertson (L) | Kirkcaldy— Mr. R. S. Aytoun (L) |
| Buteshire— Mr. J. Lamont (L) | Kiroudbright— Mr. W. H. Maxwell (L) |
| Mr. C. Dalrymple (C) | Mr. R. Hannay (L) |
| Border Burghs— Mr. Trevelyan (L) | Lanarkshire, North— Sir E. Colebrooke (L) |
| Hon. Mr. Elliot (L) | Lanarkshire, South— Sir N. M. Lockhart (C) |
| Caithness— Mr. G. Traill (L) | Major Hamilton (L) |
| Clackmannan— Mr. W. P. Adams (L) | Leith District— Mr. W. Miller (L) |
| Lord Erskine (C) | Mr. Macfie (L) |
| Dumfriesshire— Mr. H. Campbell (L) | Linlithgow— Mr. P. McLagan (L) |
| Mr. Orr Ewing (L) | Mr. J. Pender (L) |
| Dumfries— Mr. R. Jardine (L) | Montrose District— Mr. W. E. Baxter (L) |
| Mr. Ernest Noel (L) | Orkney, &c.— Mr. F. Dundas (L) |
| Dumfriesshire— General Walker (C) | Paisley— Mr. Cram-Ewing (L) |
| Dundee—(2) | Mr. Kintrea (L) |
| Sir J. Ogilvy (L) | Peebles and Selkirk— Sir Graham Montgomerie (C) |
| Mr. G. Armitstead (L) | Sir John Murray (L) |
| Mr. Guthrie (L) | Perth— Hon. A. Kinnaird (L) |
| Mr. Scott (L) | Perthshire— Sir W. S. Maxwell (C) |
| Edinburgh County— Earl of Dalkeith (C) | Renfrewshire— Mr. A. A. Spiers (L) |
| Sir A. G. Maitland (L) | Ross-shire— Mr. A. Matheson (L) |
| Edinburgh City— Mr. D. McLaren (L) | Roxburghshire— Sir Wm. Scott (L) |
| Mr. Miller (L) | St. Andrew's Dist.— Mr. E. Ellice (L) |
| Mr. J. Aytoun (L) | Stirlingshire— Admiral Erskine (L) |
| Edinburgh & St. Andrew's Universities— Dr. Lyon Playfair (L) | Stirling District— Mr. J. Ramsay (L) |
| Dr. Prosser James (L) | Mr. Jas. Campbell (L) |
| Mr. A. C. Swinton (C) | Sutherlandshire— Lord R. S. Gower (L) |
| Elgin and Nairnshire— Hon. James Grant (C) | Wick Burghs— Mr. S. Laing (L) |
| Elgin, Banff, &c.— Mr. M. E. G. Duff (L) | Mr. G. Loch (L) |
| Falkirk District— Mr. J. Merry (L) | Mr. E. B. Lockyer (L) |
| Fifehire— Sir R. Anstruther (L) | Wigton Burghs— Mr. George Young (L) |
| Mr. Boyd Kinnear (L) | Wigtonshire— Sir A. Agnew (L) |
| Forfarshire— Hon. C. Carnegie (L) | Lord Garlies (C) |
| Glasgow—(3) | |
| Mr. W. Graham (L) | |
| Mr. R. Dalglish (L) | |
| Col. Anderson (L) | |
| Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities— Mr. J. Moncrieff (L) | |
| Mr. E. S. Gordon (C) | |

REPRESENTATION OF BRADFORD.

WARD MEETINGS.

On Thursday evening Mr. E. Miall commenced his campaign of the wards by addressing the electors of the East Ward in the theatre of the Mechanics' Institute. Some time before the hour for the meeting to commence the room was crowded to excess, hundreds were unable to obtain admission, and the proceedings were begun sooner than the time fixed. Mr. Alderman Pollard was voted to the chair, and amongst the gentlemen on the platform, which was quite as much crowded as the other parts of the hall, were Mr. J. Craven, Mr. S. E. Sichel, Mr. A. Illingworth, Mr. Councillor Boothroyd, Mr. John Cooke, Mr. R. Kell, Mr. Wm. Angus, Mr. S. C. Kell, Mr. James Hanson, &c.

Mr. MIALL, on rising to speak, was saluted with loud cheers. It was some time before he could proceed, owing to the great crush. When silence was restored, he said: Electors of the South Ward, and those few—I trust they are but few—who are non-electors, I greet you from the bottom of my heart. (Applause.) I am glad once more to look upon your faces. It is a great pleasure to me if I have made some sacrifices for the purpose of purchasing it. It

is a great pleasure to me to be in your hands. (Applause.) I like earnestness, and I believe you are in earnest. (Hear, hear, and applause.) I like political intelligence, and I think there is political intelligence here. I like patriotism—patriotism even above local attachments—(applause)—and here I see patriotism rising superior to the smaller affections. (Applause, and confusion owing to the crowded state of the room.) I was trying to define the position in which I stand when I occupy this platform as a candidate for Bradford. It is generally expected that a man should unfold to those to whom he appeals for their votes his claim to those votes. (Hear, hear.) I have no claim whatever to be here of my own. I don't thrust myself on this constituency. I regard the responsibility of representing you in Parliament to be so great that, unless I had your entire confidence, I would rather not incur that responsibility. I know very well that I have a right to appear as a candidate before any constituency, and pay my own expenses. (Applause and laughter.) I have an equal right to stand on my head in the Market-place for half-an-hour, but I should not think it right to do so. (Laughter and applause.) There is a vast difference between a man having a right to do it and its being right for him to do it. I don't consider myself to have a single claim upon Bradford beyond that which is given to me by the electors of Bradford. (Applause.) It is for your right I am here, and not for my own. You have invited me to stand as a candidate, and it is to sustain your right to invite whom you please, whether he be, or whether he be not, a townsman—(applause)—and to resist—I will not simply say resist dictation on the part of others, but to resist intrusion on the part of the candidate himself. Thus for your right I am here, but not for my own. If you sustain me and send me to Parliament, you send me as your servant, and as your servant I shall desire to go. (Applause.) If I am here in my own name and in my own personal right and by own way, then you are my humble and obedient servants. (Applause.) That is the true doctrine of constitutional representation. He who goes to Parliament goes, not to speak in his own name, but in the name of those who sent him. He exercises, of course, his own judgment on all questions; he has a right to retain all his individuality of opinion, and will undoubtedly have to sustain any proposition he may make in Parliament, or any course he may pursue there, by reasons that will be satisfactory to those that sent him; but, after all, if he have any successful result, it will come, not from him, but through him from the people. (Hear, hear.) I will put before you one or two points of those guiding principles of politics that may enlighten your minds as to the fact whether I have sympathised with you, and whether you have not sympathised with me. One word, I think, I may address to you on personal grounds—I am no new man. Some one calls me an untried and theoretical man—(laughter)—a man of one idea. I would rather be a man of one idea than a man of no idea. (Applause.) But if a man keeps one idea truly, with all his heart, and with all his understanding, and that idea be a true one and an important one, it will open his mind to all other ideas. (Hear, hear.) I do not mean to compare myself to men who have gone before, to whom I would do the utmost reverence. Cobden was a man of one idea quite as much as I am; and Bright was a man of one idea and he has caused his idea to prevail. (Applause.) It is not a man of one idea who is so objectionable, it is because I am a man who has an idea of any kind, and that that idea has ripened into a purpose. (Applause.) It is not merely that I know, but that I mean to do it—not merely that I mean to do it, I have given a pledge in my past life that I am able to do it. (Applause.) If I were a nonentity, would they be so earnest in their opposition? ("No, no.") Why, they prefer neutral tints, they don't like colour, especially green—(laughter)—they would far rather have gray, where there is nothing to distinguish—(laughter)—they would far rather take a man of unknown politics, even according to his own confession, than take a man who is earnest in his politics—and how wrong is it for them? (Hear, hear.) I cast blame upon no one. All have a right to do that which is right in their own eyes, so long as they respect the rights of others. I should be very sorry indeed to incur the responsibility of representing Bradford if, in order to do so, I was obliged to commit injustice towards any individual. (Hear, hear.) I don't want to indulge in any abuse. I don't want to placard the walls of this town with things that are unfair and untrue. I would scorn to get the better of any candidate who is opposed to me, except in the way of fair argument and reason. (Hear, hear.) If those who are round about me intended to employ unfair means, I should feel that in my conscience I was pledged to retire from the contest; for I will not do that which is wrong to my conscience. The speaker then dwelt upon the political questions of the day. The foremost of these was justice to Ireland, which concerned the unity of the empire. "Ireland happy, prosperous, free, is strength to the empire; Ireland discontented, and especially justly discontented, is weakness to the empire. (Hear, hear.) With the hand of Ireland in our hand we can face the world." (Cheers.) They began with the Irish Church, because it touched the very depths of Irish feeling, and trampled on the religious convictions and faith of the majority. "It is on this account that I attach so very great importance to the question which was brought forward by Mr. Gladstone in the last session of Parliament. It is for this reason that I look upon him as a statesman raised up and qualified for the present occasion—(Hear, hear)—and the wants of the day. It is this that makes me believe he will write his name upon

the history of England, so that it shall never be obliterated—(cheers)—and will gather about it the veneration, the esteem, the affection of all generations of Englishmen who know how to appreciate justice. (Cheers.) I am glad to be able to support him. (Hear, hear.) I support him on a proposition which is not new to me—(cheers)—a proposition for the success of which I do not work now for the first time, upon which I do not form my opinion merely upon the events of the day. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) I have always regarded that question as a question of deep importance—far deeper than it seems—simply because it is a question bound up with the deepest feelings of a generous nation." (Hear, hear.) There were other views he held, though he was said to have but one idea. Touching upon Reform, he said Mr. Disraeli had offered them a large boon, which he put forward temptingly, and round about it he had all manner of ligaments by which he could pull the greater part of it back from us. (Laughter and cheers.) The Liberal party, under the lead of Mr. Gladstone, cut those ligaments, and we have, what the Tories did not want us to have, we have something like a substantial power of representing in the House of Commons the real opinion of the people of England. (Applause.) It is imperfect. It wants a great deal of adjustment. In the early part of the session of Parliament it will be necessary to do away with some things and to initiate others as supplementary to that which has already been done. (Applause.) They would have to dissociate the vote from the payment of rates, to redistribute seats more equitably, and give the protection of the ballot. Mr. Miall then explained his views relative to the relations of capital and labour, economical government, education, and non-intervention, and concluded by saying—

I have no wish in this matter—and I say it most honestly and truly—I have no wish in this matter apart from your own. I would sooner by far be relegated to private life to do what I can, as I have done hitherto, for the advancement of the opinions and the sentiments of the people of England by my pen and in my study, than I would in the Senate of the United Kingdom; but if you choose to place me in a position of responsibility towards yourselves, and would sustain towards me the relation of represented and representative, I do not shrink from the self-sacrifice. (Applause.) On the contrary, I have come into this life to serve first God and then man. (Loud cheers.) I am not ashamed of serving Him, my maker—(Hear, hear)—nor of professing that I serve Him. I am not ashamed to serve man, let his condition be what it may, and the lower in the social scale, and the more he needs sympathy and help, the prouder I shall be if I am employed as an instrument in lifting him up and pouring oil into his wounds, and assuring him by sympathy that he has my respect. (Cheers.) These are the principles, gentlemen, upon which I stand before you. I know what will be your answer. I never yet in my life saw the slightest indication that if you honestly appeal to Englishmen on behalf of justice Englishmen would not cordially respond. (Cheers.) You may try all manner of cries—all manner of cries have been tried, in fact, not only in Bradford, but elsewhere—not only against me, but against those who occupy far higher and more eminent positions than myself. It won't do. It won't succeed. (A voice: "It won't wash," and laughter.) This country cannot be governed by tricks. (Cheers.) There must be something straightforward. It may be bigotry, it may be intolerance, it may be liberty, it may be enlightenment; but, whatever it be, it must be something real. (Hear, hear.) Phrases will not rule the hearts of the people of England. (Cheers.) Phrasemongers may lift themselves into power, but they will be unable to retain it in the face of the verdict of the nation. (Hear, hear.) The time is close approaching when the nation will give that verdict, and I have not the smallest doubt upon my mind as to what the verdict will be. The verdict of the working classes, associated with the better part of the middle classes, I will give: that verdict will be this—Do right, and fear not. (Loud cheers.) Let all the ends you aim at be for justice, and if that be the cry, that the sentiment that pervades, as I honestly believe it does, this nation, at the present time, I shall be proud to serve in a Parliament that has been selected under such circumstances. (Cheers.)

At the close of his address, which was throughout loudly applauded, Mr. Miall answered a series of questions. He did not vote against the abolition of the truck system, because the question was settled a good while before he went into Parliament. He was in favour of the capitation grant being extended to aid the volunteer movement if the standing army was proposed thereby to be reduced. He had opposed the Ten Hours' Bill under a misapprehension that it would tend to injure the people, but he had now changed his opinions, and was in favour of further shortening the hours of labour when practicable. He had been repeatedly taunted about what had passed between himself and Sir M. Molesworth in 1842, but so far from there being any disagreement, that gentleman had taken him by the hand in 1852, and they had remained good friends until Sir William's death. He hoped to vote against the grant to Maynooth at the same time when he voted for the abolition of the Irish Church; he would give compensation to the Roman Catholics for vested rights in the same manner that he would treat Protestants. He had not changed his long-cherished opinions on the English Church, and as to the length of time that might elapse before he resumed his agitation against that Church circumstances would determine, but he assured his questioner that he would again make himself heard on that point.

Mr. THOMAS SHEPHERD then moved a resolution to the effect that Messrs. Forster and Miall are pre-eminently qualified to represent Bradford in the Reformed House of Parliament, and that the meeting pledged itself to use every legitimate means to secure their return at the coming election. (Cheers.)

Mr. JOSEPH CRAVEN seconded the motion, which, on being submitted to the meeting, was carried amid hearty and long-continued applause.

The CHAIRMAN said the resolution had been carried unanimously, with the exception of three persons. (Renewed applause.)

Mr. ALFRED ILLINGWORTH, who was received with loud cheers, in proposing a vote of thanks to the chairman, expressed a confident belief that Messrs. Forster and Miall would be carried in the face of all opponents. (Applause.)

Mr. S. E. SICHEL seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation; and the CHAIRMAN having responded, the meeting separated.

On Friday night a crowded and enthusiastic meeting of the electors of Great Horton Ward was held in the Co-operative Hall, to listen to an address from Mr. Miall. From 700 to 800 persons were present. Mr. Councillor Snowden was called to the chair. After Mr. Miall had explained his political principles in a speech which was very cordially received, he proceeded to answer a number of questions. He expressed himself in favour of shorter hours of labour, that he was not a "leveller" in the sense of making all equal by law, that he would support measures for disendowing and disestablishing the English Church, when the question was ripe for practical settlement; and that he and Mr. Forster would work together on that question, because, when it became a practical question, Mr. Forster would be with him. In answer to a question respecting waste lands, he expressed himself in favour of the recognition of the right of all classes when enclosures were made. A resolution in favour of Messrs. Forster and Miall was proposed by Mr. E. MYERS, seconded by Mr. G. BINNS, and carried with only seven dissentients. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, Mr. ROBERT KELL was called upon by the meeting, and spoke at some length on the eligibility of the candidates before them to represent the working men.

On Saturday afternoon, Mr. Miall addressed a meeting of the electors of the Manningham Ward on an open space in Carlisle-road. The weather was very fine, and from twelve to fifteen hundred persons assembled. Mr. E. Priestman was called to the chair. In the course of his address Mr. MIALL said that his opponents talked about his being rammed down the throats of the electors; but he should never have come among them as a candidate had he not been called by a sufficient invitation, and for his part he saw no great difference between a man's being rammed down the throats of the electors and his jumping down of his own accord. ("Ripley," and shouts of laughter.) Any candidate who attempted either process was sure, he believed, to stick in the electors' throats. The CHAIRMAN invited questions, and a number were handed up to Mr. Miall, which he characterised not as honest attempts to elicit his opinions, but as traps to catch him, and remarked that if the committee of wise men who had contrived them could do no better than that they ought to let it alone. Some of the questions were of a very extraordinary description; one of them being, "Which is the most direct line to America?" and another, "Is Mr. Miall in favour of the Garibaldian invasion of the Papal States?" Mr. Miall answered the whole, amid repeated cheering from the meeting. Mr. Councillor PRIESTLEY proposed a resolution pledging the meeting in favour of Messrs. Forster and Miall, which was seconded by Mr. LUSH, a working man, and carried with about a dozen dissentients.

On Monday night Mr. Miall addressed a large and enthusiastic meeting of the electors of the North Ward in the Alexandra Theatre, upwards of 2,000 persons being present, including a number of ladies in the boxes. Mr. Councillor Scott was called to the chair. The candidate, in the course of his address, criticised at some length and condemned Sir Roundell Palmer's proposed compromise on the Irish Church question. Subsequently Mr. Miall replied to a number of questions. He said he was in favour of county boards which should have control over the expenditure of public money. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) He was not in favour of repealing the malt tax unless it was imperatively shown that there was no other tax that could be so well spared, and he claimed the right to exercise his judgment at the time when it was proposed to be repealed. (Cheers.) He had always voted against the game laws as far as he had had the opportunity. (Applause.) He would not oust the bishops from the House of Lords, but would gently lead them out. (Applause and laughter.) Showing them their dioceses, he would say, "There's a province for your work. This House belongs to the lay lords. Lordships belong not properly and scripturally to you. Go, work in the Master's vineyard." He was in favour of the repeal of the law of primogeniture, but was not in favour of the French system of requiring by law the division of a person's property equally amongst the members of his family. (Applause.) He would vote for the repeal of the Vaccination Bill, on the ground that before the Government interfered and made it compulsory vaccination was more successful and general than it had been since. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) He did not object to the payment of chaplains in the army and navy so long as the religious convictions of all the soldiers and sailors were respected. (Loud applause.) But he longed to see the day when there would be sufficient Christian zeal amongst all denominations to sustain men in accompanying the army, or in providing for the navy, to give to the soldiers and sailors religious instruction. (Applause.) In making grants to religious institutions he did not think it right for a man to neglect his family and give away his money at his death to those institutions, and would rather see them supported in a man's

lifetime. (Applause.) A vote in favour of Messrs. Forster and Miall was carried with great enthusiasm.

LETTER FROM MR. MIALL.

The following letter, addressed to Mr. R. Kell, appears in the *Bradford Observer* of Thursday:—
Welland House, Forest-hill, S.E.
August 22, 1868.

My Dear Sir,—I find from the local newspapers and other sources of information that the opponents of my candidature at Bradford are tapping away like woodpeckers at my political reputation, determined either to find or to make some ugly hole in it. I do not blame them. It is the likeliest line of tactics open to them. It is far easier to disparage persons than to call in question sound political principles. An election is always a time of fermentation, during which we may expect a good deal of froth to rise to the top.

I am not careful to answer mere detraction and abuse. I am content to leave my public life—not a very short one—to do that. I cannot fare worse in this respect than Mr. Gladstone has done. It is the common fate of all who devote themselves in earnest to any great reform.

But there are two points on which I am anxious that the constituency of Bradford—the working men especially—should not be misled.

It is urged against me that I have all my life been opposed to national education; that I have been so on the narrowest sectarian grounds; and that when I ceased to be so, I had not the manliness to acknowledge it, and only gave up my opposition with a view to the last Bradford election. The gist of this charge, as you will perceive, is, that I cared for the education of the people only so far as I could make it subservient to the purposes of my own denomination, and that because I could not succeed in forcing the mind of the rising generation through the religious groove of my own sect, I opposed it altogether. There is, perhaps, no charge which the course of my life more abundantly refutes. If I had been a Tory, an enthusiastic advocate of "things as they are," there might have been some plausibility in the accusation. But every political aspiration I cherished depended for success upon the increased enlightenment of the people. Locally and publicly, according to my opportunity and my means, I have done my best to stimulate a desire for, and supply the want of, educational means to those of my countrymen who were without them. If those means could, in my judgment, have been best guaranteed by the Privy Council scheme, I should have had no motive for opposing it. But what were the facts? That scheme followed close upon Sir James Graham's attempt to put the education of the whole country under the undisguised control of the clergy. It was concocted by a zealous friend of the Church, it was passed by an aristocratic Parliament, it has been worked to the advantage of the Establishment. It was made available not so much to educate as to Churchify the people. I dreaded offering the young mind of the nation as wax to the seal of the clergy, that they might put upon it the stamp which best suited them, and I opposed it for that and other reasons. I opposed it because I would not have the education of the people in the hands of the clergy of any denomination. Not even my own—for when the denomination with which I usually act, and of which I am a member, resolved to prosecute the work of popular education by denominational agency, I declined to join them, and attached myself to the Voluntary School Association which was organised upon an unsectarian basis. Can any sane man suppose that if I had been what my electoral opponents would fain represent me to have been, a Tory Government would have selected me as a Royal Commissioner to inquire into the state of primary education in the country, or that the Duke of Newcastle, the chairman of the commission, would have borne testimony, after three years' close and gratuitous labour, to my zeal and candour and catholicity in the work? And be it remembered that when, by the passing of the Reform Act of 1877, and months before a vacancy at Bradford was anticipated, I saw that the people would have political power to mould their own educational system, I withdrew my opposition, and announced my intention of siding them to the utmost of my power and influence in obtaining a really national system of education, undenominational in its character, based on local rates, and regulated by local management. Not my sectarianism, but my detestation of sectarianism, moved me, to a great extent, in the opposition I offered to what is called a national, but what in reality has been a clerical, system of education.

There is one other point on which I wish to obviate misconception, and the more so because a placard has been posted on the walls with the plain object of alienating from me the confidence of Roman Catholic voters. I am both by training and conviction a Protestant, as, I believe, my opponent is. As a Protestant, I, as well as he, necessarily see some things both at home and abroad in a light different from what they naturally assume when looked at through Roman Catholic sympathies. And I am sure that if either of us pretended otherwise, our Catholic fellow-countrymen would despise us for our want of straightforwardness. But this I may say, and shall give ample proof of the sincerity of my profession, that in every question which has been mooted since I entered public life affecting Roman Catholics, I have invariably claimed for them the same civil and political rights which have been thought justly due to Protestant bodies. When I was yet but a youth, I was an enthusiastic partisan in favour of the Catholic emancipation. I paid a visit of sympathy to Daniel O'Connell when he was imprisoned at Dublin for an alleged political offence. Very early in my career as a journalist, I felt it my duty to put myself in decided opposition to many of the members and directors of the London Missionary Society, in claiming for French Catholic missionaries at Tahiti the same liberty to preach and proselytise as was accorded to the missionaries of the Protestant faith. I withstood the furious current of public feeling in 1850-51, by opposing the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, and was bodily hurled from the platform of a public meeting at Islington, on which I made my appearance to move an amendment to a motion condemnatory of what was called the Papal aggression. I spoke and voted in the House of Commons in 1854 against Mr. T. Chambers's Bill for the inspection of nunneries, and was complimented by the leader of the House as having exhausted the argument. I assisted Mr. Fagan in carrying the abolition of ministers' money in Ireland.

I brought forward a motion for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church in 1856, based upon the same principles as those adopted last session by Mr. Gladstone. I supported the placing of Roman Catholic chaplains in the army, in prisons, and in workhouses, upon the same footing as those connected with the Church of England. I helped to repeal obnoxious Parliamentary Oaths, and joined the Liberal party in supporting the Transubstantiation Declaration Bill, the Oaths and Oaths Bill, and Mr. Monsell's Burial Bill. Finally, I have actively and earnestly worked, in public and in private, to insure the success of Mr. Gladstone's Irish Church policy. These are my titles to the political confidence of the Roman Catholic voters in Bradford. I am not aware that my opponent can show higher or better ones. If he can, he will no doubt deserve their preference.

I am sorry to have troubled you with so long a letter, but the occasion seemed to me to call for it. I will only add that I am, my dear sir, yours very faithfully,

EDWARD MIALI.

To Robert Kell, Esq.

ABERDEENSHIRE (WEST).—It will be seen that the Liberal candidate for this division is likely to be returned unopposed. Mr. W. M'Combie is the well-known cattle-breeder whose establishment was visited a few months ago by the Queen. Formerly he voted for the Conservative candidate, but Mr. M'Combie has promised a general support to Mr. Gladstone, and pledged himself to vote for the disestablishment of the Irish Church. He will represent the tenant-farmer—not the landlord interest—and one of his cries will be, "Down with the game laws!"

ARMAGH.—Sir W. Verner has retired from public life. The hon. baronet has for many years been the "father," that is, the senior member, of the House of Commons, where he has sat for forty-two years. In politics he has always been an Orangeman of the most ultra old school, and his name is associated with the fiercest struggles of the party. His son, Mr. E. W. Verner, hopes to succeed him in the representation of the county of Armagh.

BELFAST.—Mr. T. M'Clure has been chosen as a Liberal candidate. The Conservatives are Sir C. Lanyon, Mr. W. Lytle (Presbyterian), and Mr. Johnston, the Orange leader. According to the census of 1861, the Protestant Dissenters in Belfast, exclusive of the Presbyterians, were not far short of 8,000; and among these no fewer than 5,000 were returned as Methodists.

BRECON.—It appears that this little borough, which is greatly under the influence of Lord Tredegar and other Tory landlords, has at last shown unmistakable signs of life. A Liberal candidate, in the person of Mr. Alfred A. Walton, a member of the Brecon Town Council, has issued a liberal and spirited address. Mr. Walton pledges himself, if returned, to "vote with Mr. Gladstone and the Liberal party in the disestablishment of the Irish Church."

BURY, LANCASHIRE.—After trying Lord de Grey and Mr. J. Mellor, a local manufacturer, the Conservatives have induced Viscount Chelsea, son of the Earl of Cadogan, to contest this borough with Mr. R. N. Phillips.

BURY ST. EDMUND'S.—The Liberals have invited Mr. Parry, the High Sheriff of Carnarvonshire, to become their second candidate. Mr. Parry has addressed a meeting of the electors, who have passed a resolution pledging themselves to use every legitimate effort to secure his return. He will run with Mr. Hardcastle.

CHESHIRE (MID).—In compliance with a numerous-signed requisition, Mr. J. L. Warren has issued an address in the Liberal interest. He says:—"The whole gist of my address to you may be thus briefly summed up. I strenuously advocate the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church, I look confidently to Mr. Gladstone as my future political leader, and I have the fullest confidence in the moderation and sound sense of all orders of the English people."

CHIPPENHAM.—The following address has been issued by the committee of the Liberal Association:—"Fellow Electors,—The vote which has been entrusted to us is our lawful right; and we merely desire that no other person shall interfere with us in the free exercise of it. That this borough should be represented according to the wishes of the majority is the common right of us all; and we are determined to prevent, so far as we can, the swamping our independent votes by the forced votes of those who are not independent. By our united action at the present crisis, we seize the opportunity which the extension of the suffrage has given us, of putting an end to the undue influence which has frequently been exercised in elections for this borough. Will you assist in this work? That which we claim ourselves we freely allow in those who differ from us; and we hereby set our faces against all coercion and violence, all bribery and treating, and all corrupt practices and promises; and we will support no candidate who resorts to or permits such unworthy means of obtaining our suffrages, or a seat in Parliament." The association has been joined by large numbers, and is increasing daily.

COCKERMOUTH.—Lord Mayo announced to his supporters at Cockermouth on Wednesday night that he had accepted, after due consideration, the Governor-Generalship of India. His brother, the Hon. Henry Bourke, will be the Conservative candidate for Cockermouth. Major Green Thompson, M.P., has retired. It is thought that the Liberal aspirant, Mr. Isaac Fletcher, will have a better chance than if Lord Mayo had been his opponent.

CORNWALL (WEST).—There are now only two candidates for this division, Messrs. St. Aubyn and Vivian, both Liberals. The Conservative, Mr. R. Davey, has retired.

DERBYSHIRE (EAST).—The most gratifying reports continue to reach us of the growing adherence to the Liberal cause throughout this new electoral district. The general and local committees are indefatigable in their exertions, and there is every reason to believe that the Liberal candidates, Messrs. Egerton and Strutt, will be returned by a triumphant majority.—*Sheffield Independent*.

DERBYSHIRE, SOUTH.—Mr. Rowland Smith, banker, of Duffield Hall, is to be the Tory candidate who, along with Sir Thomas Gresley, will contest this constituency against Messrs. Evans and Colville, the present Liberal members. The contest will probably be a close one.

DEVON (EAST).—The Liberals, it is confidently rumoured, intend to contest this division of the county against the Tory candidates, Lord Courtenay and Sir M. Lopes. Mr. Wade, a retired barrister and chairman of the Newton Abbot Board of Guardians, is spoken of as one Liberal candidate; while Mr. Dixon, of Winalade, near Exeter, brother of the member for Birmingham, has been named as the second. The Liberals feel confident that they can carry one of the seats at least.

DEWBURY.—The friends of Mr. Handel Cosham and prosecuting their canvass. One of the members of Mr. Cosham's committee writes to the *Leeds Mercury*:—"The published list of voters shows about 6,500 names. This number, when duplicates, &c., are taken off, will stand in round numbers at 6,000. In this number there are about 1,300 Tories, thus leaving about 4,700 Liberal voters. The result of Mr. Cosham's canvass up to now is about 2,300 pledges, leaving an important part of the borough, which is not yet canvassed, out of consideration. There is a good prospect of about 3,000 pledges being got for Mr. Cosham. But take the canvass as it now stands. Mr. Cosham has 2,300 out of 4,700 Liberal voters. So much for Mr. Simon's committee's assertion, 'that Mr. Cosham is the candidate of a small section of the Liberal electors.' The reverse is the fact—Mr. Simon is the candidate of a 'small section of the Liberal electors,' and he and his committee hope, by coquetting with the Tories, to secure their support; and herein lies his only chance of success."

DROPTWICH.—It is said that Mr. John Corbett, of Stoke Grange, near Bromsgrove, will oppose Sir John Pakington in the Liberal interest.

DUBLIN CITY.—The *Evening Post* states that the total number of claims sent in by the Liberals up to Saturday, the last day for serving them, was 4,387, while the Conservatives sent in only 1,600. This would give a Liberal majority on the new lists of 2,787. The *Post* infers that the new franchises place the return of two Liberals beyond doubt. The Conservatives, on the other hand, assert that the new franchises will make very little substantial change in the constituency.

EDINBURGH CITY.—The requisition to Lord Stanley, which is said to be numerous signed, will be presented on his lordship's return from Germany. In the meantime, Lord Stanley has intimated to the electors of King's Lynn his intention to offer himself again for the seat. Mr. M'Laren, who is at present in England in bad health, has been requested by his medical advisers to abstain for some weeks from taking part in election matters.

FINSBURY.—Mr. Torrens and Mr. Lusk have issued their addresses. The former hon. gentleman, in speaking of his long advocacy of household suffrage, suggests that now it has been granted it should be accompanied by the ballot. He will support Mr. Gladstone in his policy of disestablishing the Irish Church. With respect to the national expenditure, believing that there is no hope of retrenchment save by lessening the amount of taxation, Mr. Torrens is prepared to entertain any well-considered scheme of reduction with a view to lightening the burdens which enhance the cost of living. He goes on to say that "no question will demand more imperatively the attention of the new Parliament than that of railway reform. Competition between rival lines has been made away with, and the original policy on which excessive privileges were granted has failed. While excessive outlay and prodigal mismanagement have brought multitudes to ruin, travellers are threatened with higher fares, and traders with heavier rates. Some relief from these perplexities is the practical want of the hour." Mr. Lusk says:—"I have earnestly striven to fulfil honestly every promise I made when I first obtained your support, and if I have failed in any respect I ask you kindly to judge me by what I did rather than by what I should have done. All my actions and every vote I gave, whether having reference to local or public affairs, I conscientiously believed to be for the good of my constituents and the country at large." The present members have determined to present themselves conjointly before the enlarged constituency of this borough, which, it is estimated, will now have 40,000 electors. The return of Mr. Torrens and Mr. Alderman Lusk, who will be thus united in their canvass, is looked upon as certain, especially as committees are already being formed throughout the borough in their joint names.

FROME.—A correspondent writes:—"So far as present appearances go, the Liberal candidate, Sir H. Rawlinson, will be returned unopposed. The Tory party is divided, chiefly in consequence of an election of churchwardens last April, when the Low Churchmen, assisted by many Dissenters, carried a 'Protestant' for that office. Since then the vicar's party have refused to join the Evangelicals in supporting a 'Protestant' Tory candidate for the borough seat, and the Evangelicals will not vote for a High Churchman. The Dissenting and Church Liberals will therefore have it all their own way. A working men's Liberal Union has been formed in

this borough, and is doing good service. It is warmly supported by the former heads of the Liberal party in Frome, and the working men have already repaid the confidence thus reposed in them by heartily accepting the old member as their candidate. Sir Henry Rawlinson is a good Liberal, and has deserved the support of all Dissenters by his consistent support of all the Church and State reforms proposed in the last Parliament."

GLASGOW AND ABERDEEN UNIVERSITIES.—On Thursday, at Glasgow, Mr. Moncreiff addressed a meeting of the constituency of the Universities of Glasgow and Aberdeen. He was well received. The Lord Provost of Glasgow presided. Speaking on Parliamentary Reform, Mr. Moncreiff said it was not to the Conservatives nor to the Liberals that the country ought to turn with gratitude, but to the memory of those men who had fought for the cause of the people when the combatants were few. Having advocated the disestablishment of the Irish Church, he spoke at length on education, and said he would support any measure calculated to improve the education of the people, from whatever party it came. A vote of thanks was unanimously given.

HARWICH.—Mr. E. Grimwade, who had been announced as a candidate in the Liberal interest in this borough, having declined to come forward, a deputation waited upon Mr. Charles Henry Turner, late chairman of the Great Eastern Railway, to invite him to become a candidate for the borough. Mr. Turner, in a letter already published, declined doing so. Notwithstanding, the Liberals have, it is said, resolved to put him in nomination.

HEREFORD.—Major George Arbuthnot has appeared as a colleague with Mr. Baggallay in the Conservative interest at Hereford, and has issued an address, in which he expresses himself as opposed to the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Mr. C. Brook, jun., of Enderley Hall, Leicestershire, has been invited to contest the seat in the Conservative interest, in opposition to Mr. E. A. Leatham, the Liberal sitting member. Being afflicted with deafness, he hesitates to accept it.

IPSWICH.—We are informed that Mr. Cobbold, the Conservative, who has represented this borough for twenty-one years, has retired. Mr. Adair and Mr. West will now probably be returned unopposed.

ISLE OF WIGHT.—In Ryde some four hundred new voters have been added to the county register, three hundred of whom are believed to be staunch Liberals. There is at present no opposition to Sir John Simeon.

KIDDERMINSTER.—A correspondent writes with reference to Kidderminster that there are three candidates, viz., Mr. Makins, Conservative, and Mr. Thomas Lea and Mr. A. R. Bristow, Liberals.

LANCASHIRE (NORTH).—The fight between the Liberals and Conservatives of North Lancashire is likely to be a fierce one. Colonel Wilson Patten and the Hon. F. A. Stanley, the two Conservative candidates, have joined hands. Lord Hartington, the Liberal, is combating the opposite forces alone. Meetings in all parts of the division are being held; the candidates give addresses to the electors almost daily. On Saturday afternoon Lord Hartington addressed an influential and enthusiastic meeting of Liberal electors at Lancaster. At a crowded meeting of his supporters, at Lancaster, on Saturday, the Marquis of Hartington made pointed and vigorous references to one of his opponents, Colonel Wilson Patten. Lord Hartington affirmed that Colonel Wilson Patten, "like the rest of his party, preferred the interests of that party to what he believed, if he was a true Conservative, would be the interests of the country." Adverting to the controversy that had taken place between himself and his opponent respecting the expenditure upon the army, his lordship said he "had asserted, and no one had attempted to deny it, that the expenditure upon the army had increased since the Liberal Government left office by a sum of 1,200,000l. per year. The reply of the Conservative party was that the Liberal Government left the army in a state of inefficiency; but it was a fact that for all practical purposes it was left in an efficient state. It was entirely owing to the exertions of the late Government that the army was now supplied with breech-loaders. When he came to look into the case he discerned that not more than 500,000l. or 600,000l. could be traced to the expenditure incurred by additional pay to troops, the breech-loaders, and the heavy guns for fortifications; what, then, he asked, had become of the remaining 600,000l. or 700,000l.?"

LANCASHIRE (SOUTH-WEST).—The whole of the Tory objections served upon the 12th occupiers in South-west Lancashire are invalid, in consequence of the notices not stating, in accordance with the new Reform Act, the grounds of objection. In the borough a large number of the Tory objections are useless, having been posted too late for delivery on the 25th.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

LEEDS.—Mr. W. St. James Wheelhouse, barrister, has come forward in the Conservative interest as a candidate for Leeds, at the request, he says, of more than one deputation of his fellow-townsmen. His address was published on Saturday, and he declares himself a supporter of the Government.—*Leeds Mercury*.

LEICESTERSHIRE (NORTH).—Political parties are very active in this division, and the contest is looked forward to with interest, owing to the opposition to the house of Rutland offered by Mr. C. H. Frewen, the independent (Conservative) candidate, and the increased number of voters on the register.

LINLITHGOWSHIRE.—The present member, Mr. P. M'Lagan, who has hitherto been classed as a Liberal-Conservative, announces that, if elected, he shall in future sit on the Liberal benches. He is

opposed by Mr. Pender, who was some years ago unseated for Totnes.

MARYLEBONE.—Mr. Harvey Lewis has issued his address seeking re-election. He thus refers to the great question of the day:—"I gave, and shall continue to give, my cordial support to Mr. Gladstone on this great question, which will, I firmly believe, remove a fruitful source of discontent in Ireland, and will, in my opinion, greatly tend to promote the true interests of Protestantism throughout the United Kingdom." Dr. Humphrey Sandwith has issued a spirited address to the electors. He regards "the Church Establishment of Ireland as a disgrace to Christendom and a constant source of peril as well as dishonour to the United Kingdom"; he declares that "the landlords of England have converted him to the absolute necessity of the ballot," and promises "to co-operate with those who aim at a thorough re-organisation of public departments, with a view to greater efficiency and less expense." He is "firmly convinced that so long as elections are conducted with great expense, national interests will be subordinate to personal aims," and will therefore "employ no paid agents or canvassers." Should he be elected, he will "give no wavering support of the recognised chiefs of the Liberal party."

MIDHURST.—Mr. Mitford (Conservative), the sitting member, has issued an address, soliciting re-election. The borough returns only one member, and Mr. Mitford will be opposed by Mr. Daniel Adolphus Lange (Liberal), who has also issued an address.

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME.—At a numerously attended meeting of the Liberal electors on Wednesday evening a resolution was passed in favour of bringing forward a second Liberal candidate for this borough. It was stated that there were about 1,500 to be added to the voters of the borough, about three-fourths of whom were understood to be Liberals. It was decided to invite Mr. M. D. Hollins, manufacturer, of Stoke-upon-Trent.

NEWRY.—Mr. W. Kirk, a Presbyterian, who formerly represented this borough, again comes forward as a Liberal in opposition to Viscount Newry. The *Londonderry Standard* says:—"Mr. Kirk is a Presbyterian, as well as a tried Liberal; a man also of superior abilities, and of large experience in Parliamentary affairs. On two former occasions Mr. Kirk was returned for Newry, and he discharged his duties with uniform zeal and efficiency. He eventually lost his seat through the insensible ignorance and stupid perversity of a clique of nominal though essentially 'rotten' Presbyterians in Newry, who neither knew their own ecclesiastical principles, nor the value of the member whom they then rejected. It might be deemed premature to speculate upon contingencies, but one general result is sufficiently clear, namely, that Irish Presbyterians have little to expect at the hands of any class of Tory statesmen, and that their main reliance for ultimate justice must be upon the party of progress in the new Parliament. In view of the adjustment processes alluded to, we deem it a matter of the highest moment to our denominational future, that Mr. Kirk should have a seat in the House of Commons." In his address Mr. Kirk says:—

Repeated divisions in the Commons House of Parliament have decided that the Episcopal Church in Ireland must be disestablished and disendowed. This is a measure which, if returned by you, I shall support; and in doing so I shall be, as I am, actuated by an earnest desire to place and maintain all the subjects of her Majesty in Ireland upon a perfect footing of religious equality.

NORWICH.—Sir William Russell is expected to be the nominee of the Whig section of the Liberal party, and not Mr. Warner. The only Liberal candidate at present in the field is Mr. J. H. Tillett. The Conservatives have not yet announced their candidate.

NORFOLK (NORTH).—At present the Speaker and Lord Edward Clinton, the sitting members, are the only candidates for this division of the county, although Colonel Holden and Mr. Tidmans have been spoken of as probable Conservative aspirants.

NORFOLK (SOUTH).—It is now understood that Mr. Barrow will not seek re-election. A meeting of influential Conservatives of the division was held a few days ago, and Mr. John Chaworth Musters was fixed upon as a suitable successor.

NOTTINGHAM.—Mr. Charles Seeley, jun., addressed a crowded meeting of the electors in the Exchange Hall on Thursday night. He said he should be most heartily for placing in office the Liberal Ministry with Mr. Gladstone at its head, and he thought Mr. Bright should hold a prominent post. At the conclusion of his address a vote of thanks was passed amid acclamation. Mr. Bernal Osborne announces that he will address his constituency in a few days. The reason he has not addressed them before is in consequence of severe illness. Sir R. Clifton still resists the pressure of his friends to stand. Mr. Merri-man and Mr. Clayden continue nominally in the field.

OXFORD (CITY).—The Liberal Association now numbers upwards of 2,500 members. Great excitement has been created by the large number of objections made by the Tory agents to the number of between 700 and 800, the greater part of whom are working men, who will thus be put to great trouble and inconvenience in proving their right to the franchise. It has already had one good effect—viz., to induce many of the working men, who held aloof from both parties, to openly declare that as Dr. Deane's friends are enemies to the working classes, they will support the Liberal candidates, Messrs. Cardwell and Harcourt.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY.—There is a vague rumour that some of the leading Liberals of the University of Oxford are discussing the propriety of putting

Mr. Gladstone in nomination at the forthcoming general election. Since his rejection in favour of Mr. Hardy, it is said the Liberal party has been greatly strengthened in the University, and it is thought that Mr. Gladstone might without difficulty be returned now.

PETERSFIELD.—The present sitting member, Mr. Nicholson, has issued an address asking for re-election. Though a Liberal, he states that he did not record his vote with Mr. Gladstone on the Irish Church, because he did not wish to pledge himself to a policy without a complete plan being brought before Parliament. When such a plan is propounded, he will be ready to support it.

PONTEFRAC.—Mr. G. C. Milnes Gaskell, who has been chosen as the second Liberal candidate with Mr. Childers, has issued his address. It is satisfactory on all points.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Mr. Russell Gurney issued his address on Saturday in the Conservative interest. At present there seems some difficulty as to getting a second candidate, but it is rumoured that Mr. F. Perkins, a local wine-merchant, and a magistrate for the borough, and who has hitherto identified himself with the Liberals, will issue his address with Mr. Gurney as the second Conservative candidate. Mr. Gurney makes the following remarks on the Irish Church question:—

To the resolutions proposed respecting the Irish Church, and the bill founded upon them, I offered an unvarying opposition, believing them to be as mischievous as they were ill-timed. That great abuses have existed, and that great changes are called for, I fully admit; and believing as I do that the true glory of a Church consists in the spirit which animates its members, and not in the amount of its revenues or the political importance of its ministers, I shall be prepared to support the changes which the condition of Ireland and the state of the Protestant population may require. Of the nature and extent of the necessary changes we shall be better able to form an opinion when we have had the opportunity of considering the information collected by the commission which was appointed by her Majesty, and which has been engaged for many months in pursuing their anxious inquiry. But the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church, as proposed during the last session, would in my opinion, be attended with much injustice, and contribute neither to the interest of religion nor to the peace of Ireland.

SURREY (WEST).—Mr. W. J. Evelyn, whose return home from a tour in Norway in a day or two is expected, will contest West Surrey, in conjunction with Mr. George Cubitt, on Conservative principles. Mr. Pennington, the Liberal candidate, has addressed several meetings within the last few days, and resolutions in his favour have been adopted.

SURREY (MID).—Mr. Julian Goldsmid has addressed the electors at the Lammas Hall, Battersea, and at the Lecture-hall, Richmond, where Mr. W. J. Maxwell, J.P., presided. On both occasions the room was crowded, and the candidate very favourably received. He entered into a full statement of his political principles, and claimed for the Liberal party credit for the measure of Reform passed in 1867, and for greater economy in the public expenditure than had been shown by the Conservative Government. He replied to the charge that the Liberals had brought forward the Irish Church question with a view to popularity and return to power by showing that Mr. Disraeli's Government had themselves challenged the discussion by proposing the "levelling up" of the unendowed Churches in Ireland, and distinctly supporting the spread of Roman Catholicism by establishing a Roman Catholic University. At both meetings, after the usual fire of questions, resolutions were unanimously passed pledging those present to use their best endeavours to secure Mr. Goldsmid's return. The Conservatives have at present not held any public meetings.

SUFFOLK (EAST).—Mr. Sutton Western will, it is said, contest East Suffolk, in conjunction with Colonel Adair, in the Liberal interest.

TOWER HAMLETS.—On Thursday evening Mr. Edmund Beales addressed another large audience at the Stepney Temperance Hall, Mile-end-road. He spoke at some length upon the disestablishment of the Irish Church. He also referred to the manner in which a Conservative candidate coupled his name with that of Mr. Bradlaugh. He took occasion to say that while no two men could entertain religious views more opposed to each other than himself and Mr. Bradlaugh, yet he was bound to say that he always found Mr. Bradlaugh consistent in politics. His remarks were received with much applause, and at the conclusion a resolution in his favour was carried. Mr. Beales is the only one of the shoal of candidates, except Mr. Samuda, who is making any sign of activity.

TRURO.—In our list of last week there was an error respecting this borough. The Liberal candidate is Mr. Vivian, and the Conservative, Mr. Williams.

WAREHAM.—A remarkable spectacle is being presented in this borough. The agents of the two Conservatives, Mr. Drax and Mr. Fremantle, have been canvassing the electors during the week, and neither side has been allowed to pursue the task unmolested by the other. Mr. Calcraft, M.P., the Liberal candidate, is also engaged on his canvass. Mrs. Burton, who has a considerable estate in Wareham, has issued the following laconic command to her tenantry in regard to their votes:—

Sir,—I request you will vote for my father, J. W. S. Erle-Drax, Esq., on receipt of this.—I am, yours truly, H. E. BURTON.

Mr. —, tenant, Bere Regis.

Wareham returns only one member.

WARWICKSHIRE (SOUTH).—On Saturday two Liberal candidates were brought forward at a meeting of the leaders of the party at Warwick, namely, Lord Hyde, eldest son of the Earl of Clarendon, and

Sir Robert Hamilton, of Stratford-upon-Avon, both of whom are pledged to support the disestablishment of the Irish Church, and are thorough-going Liberals. The Conservative candidates are Mr. Hardy (brother of the Home Secretary) and Mr. Wise.

WEDNESBURY.—On Wednesday evening a meeting of persons favourable to the return of Mr. Kerr as representative of the new Black Country borough was held at Wednesbury. About 150 persons were present. The following resolutions were passed:—

1. That this meeting entirely repudiates the selection made by the so-called Liberal Committee as not being in accordance with the views and wishes of the electors. 2. That this resolution be communicated to the other districts of the borough. And, 3. That sub-committees be formed to take such steps as they may deem fit in the present emergency, reporting their proceedings to the committee from time to time.

WENLOCK.—General Forester and Mr. Gaskell, the sitting members, both of whom are Conservatives, will seek re-election. The Liberals are getting up a requisition to Mr. Alex. Brown, of Liverpool.

WESTMINSTER.—While the Liberals here have sent in as many as 4,000 lodger claims, the Conservatives have mustered scarcely one-fourth of the number. A large proportion of the artisan lodgers are fervent supporters of Mr. Mill, but will doubtless also support Captain Grosvenor if the cordial union now existing between the two sections of the party continues, as there is every reason to suppose it will, and stands the test of the polling-day. The number of householders on the list has also increased by 3,500, and a very large gain both from lodgers and householders is therefore confidently anticipated by the Liberals.

WHITBY.—A very enthusiastic meeting of working men was held on Saturday in support of Mr. W. H. Gladstone.

WHITEHAVEN.—It is probable that a Liberal candidate will start for Whitehaven. The *Carlisle Journal* says the new register will contain some 2,000 names, and of these it is believed the majority are Liberals. An accidental circumstance, however, is likely to make the chance of a Liberal victory more certain. It appears that the last rate made was levied upon and paid by the owners under the compounding arrangement, instead of upon the occupiers, as required by the Act. The local agent of the Liberal party believes that this proceeding will disqualify some 400 voters—chiefly Lord Lonsdale's miners.

THE IRISH ELECTIONS.

The Dublin correspondent of the *Times* writes on Monday:—"Election prospects, in the south especially, present some points of interest. In Kinsale, Sir G. Colthurst met his constituents in the Court-house on Friday evening, and gave such an ample and explicit statement of his views as completely removed any lurking feeling of distrust which they might have entertained in consequence of the supposed vagueness of his published address. He gave a preliminary pledge, that he would help to put into power the Liberal party and its leader, Mr. Gladstone, to enable him to carry into effect the policy respecting the Church question which he had brought forward. He would support as full a measure as regarded disendowment as Mr. Gladstone proposed. This assurance was deemed sufficient, and a resolution was unanimously passed, adopting him as a candidate. In the borough of Dungarvan some uneasiness is felt on account of a rumour that another Liberal intends to come forward in opposition to Mr. Serjeant Barry. Such a proceeding is strongly deprecated, and it is hoped will not be persisted in. A correspondent of the *Express* states that in the city of Waterford Sir H. Barron is getting through his canvass very slowly; that the bishop's letter, which was intended to serve him, is likely to have an opposite effect, the electors resenting it as an attempt at dictation; and that if a Conservative candidate does not come forward, Mr. Blake and Mr. Delahunty are likely to be returned. Mr. Grubb, the other candidate, has summoned a meeting of the electors, to be held in the hall of Ballybricken, and has challenged his rivals to attend and state their political sentiments. A correspondent of the same journal in the Queen's County mentions a rumour that Mr. Edmund Dease, of Rath, intends offering himself, and observes that he would be a formidable opponent, being popular in the county. He is connected with the family of the Right Hon. James Grattan, who expended large sums for the benefit of the county. General Dunne, the Right Hon. J. W. Fitzpatrick, and Captain McDonald are the only candidates at present. In the borough of Portarlinton the friends of Mr. Lawson and of Captain Damer profess to be confident of the success of their respective favourites. It is expected that the new Reform Act will add a considerable number of Roman Catholic electors, and their clergy will support Mr. Lawson. The result of the registers, which will test the actual strength of both parties, is anxiously looked forward to. In the county of Cork a new Liberal candidate is spoken of. The Hon. Robert Boyle, cousin of the Earl of Cork, and son of the late Hon. John Boyle, who formerly represented the county, will, it is said, offer himself to the electors as a supporter of Mr. Gladstone's policy. The borough of Athlone is receiving unrelenting attention from three of its many suitors. Mr. Goldsmid has had several meetings during the week, and is working with great diligence. Sir John Ennis is busy among the electors, and Mr. J. W. Lambert Smith is pursuing a very active and hopeful canvass. Mr. Staniforth has been absent for a few days, and the fact gave rise to a rumour that he had retired, but this is contradicted on authority. Mr. Keysell is expected to visit the constituency this

week, and Mr. Rearden, it is said, only awaits the release of his friend Mr. Train to revisit the borough. In the county of Tipperary Mr. Peter Gill has issued his address. He is not likely to be afforded an opportunity of showing his independence."

ELECTION ADDRESSES AND SPEECHES.

The addresses of the three Liberal candidates for Birmingham have been published. The following is Mr. BRIGHT'S address:—

To the Electors of Birmingham.

Gentlemen,—I have reason to believe that it is your wish that I should become a candidate for the honourable office of one of your representatives in the Parliament about to be elected; I therefore offer myself as a candidate, and ask for a renewal of the confidence you have so long reposed in me. After twenty-five years of Parliamentary life, and after ten years spent in your service, I shall not enter into an elaborate statement of my opinions on public questions. I have been permitted to explain them so fully in your Town Hall on so many occasions, that my views can scarcely be misunderstood by any amongst you. The cause of Parliamentary Reform has made great progress since the last general election, but a good deal remains to be done. The small boroughs are still to be got rid of, and the large populations will still demand their fair share of political power. The extension of the franchise has been granted under circumstances which have acted with great and needless hardship upon the small householders. I did all I could to prevent this in the session of 1867, and I shall be glad to assist in applying a remedy if I have a seat in the new Parliament. In regard to the question of the ballot as of first importance. Whether I look to the excessive cost of elections, or to the tumult which so often attends them, or to the unjust and cruel pressure which is so frequently brought to bear upon the less independent class of voters, I am persuaded that the true interest of the public and of freedom will be served by the adoption of the system of secret and free voting. It is in practice, and is highly valued, in almost every other country having representative institutions, and I regard it as absolutely necessary to a real representation of the United Kingdom. The foremost question for the new Parliament will be our treatment of Ireland. You know my views on the Irish Church Establishment, and on the land question. In dealing with the Irish Establishment we are not promoting the spread of the Roman Catholic, or damaging the influence of the Protestant religion. We do not touch religion at all. We deal only with the political institution, which has wholly failed to secure any good object, and which has succeeded only in weakening the loyalty and offending the sense of justice of the great majority of the Irish people. Our opponents speak of their zeal for Protestantism, and their loyalty to the constitution. I prefer a Protestantism which is an alliance with Christian kindness and with justice, and my loyalty to the constitution leads me to wish for the hearty union of the three kingdoms in alliance to the Crown. I believe that Christianity and the constitution will be alike strengthened in these islands by the removal of the Irish Church Establishment. At the coming election, Birmingham will send three members to Parliament; but, by a scheme which is contrary to all previous constitutional practice, it is intended that the majority of the electors shall only have two voices in the House about to be chosen, and that one of these shall be rendered useless by the vote of a member not chosen by, but elected contrary to, the will of the majority. Your constituency is increased in number from 14,000 to 42,000 voters, and by this scheme it is intended that in the great division which may take place in December next, Birmingham shall, in fact, throw only one vote into the Parliamentary scale. I regard this as an outrageous violation of constitutional principles and practice, and I cannot suppose that you will support any candidate who approves of it as applied to your borough, or who is anxious to extend it to other constituencies of the kingdom. The great town constituencies have carried the wise changes which have been forced upon Parliament of late years, and the "Minority Clause" has been enacted to lessen their power, and to reduce them to the level of small boroughs which return only one member to Parliament. I hope at some time before the election to have the opportunity of meeting you in your Town Hall, and of discussing this and other important questions at greater length than is possible in this address. If you send me to the next Parliament, I shall endeavour to act as becomes a representative of one of the foremost constituencies of the empire.

I am, with the greatest respect,

Very faithfully yours,

JOHN BRIGHT.

Rochdale, Aug. 22.

Mr. CARDWELL made an excellent speech at a meeting of the Liberal Association of Oxford on Monday evening. He said that, without professing to be a prophet, it appeared to him that what was going on at Oxford was going on pretty generally amongst the constituencies of the country too, and he entertained no doubt whatever as to the result of the election generally. And when he saw some of the most active-minded members of the present Administration seeking for themselves agreeable residences in her Majesty's distant colonial possessions, it appeared to him that he might draw a somewhat sanguine augury with regard to their estimate of the probable result of the elections. Referring to the Irish Church question and to Sir Roundell Palmer's absence from the divisions on the subject last session, he said:—

But during the last few weeks Sir Roundell Palmer had vindicated Mr. Gladstone from the charge brought against him of having taken up that question, not from sincere conviction and a true sense of public duty, but from party motives and personal ambition. (Cheers.) All the cobwebs about the Coronation Oath and other similar matters had been swept away by that powerful hand, and that to him (Mr. Cardwell) had been a source of the most sincere gratification and satisfaction. (Cheers.) That great change was a question of great difficulty and delicacy. The wise and the prudent conquered difficulties by daring to attempt to do so. The weak and foolish shivered and shrunk at the path of danger, and created the impossibilities which they feared. Now, what had been done in Canada could be

accomplished in Ireland. When, some fifteen years ago, dis-establishment and disendowment were applied to Canada, the change was of the most satisfactory description, tending, in the first place, to tranquillise Canada; and, in the second place, to add strength, energy, and vitality to the Church which was the subject of that change. (Cheers.) He would mention a few of the results which had occurred in consequence of the change which had taken place in respect to the Church of Scotland, because they were there more remarkably developed than in the history of any other country. Scotland contained a population about equal to that of the metropolitan districts, and the Free Church constituted about one-third of that population, and they were not the richer party. Now, what had been the result of that change? They had raised in the course of twenty-five years what they called a sustentation fund for their clergy, and the amount exceeded two millions and a half of money. (Hear, hear.) The annual receipts for the present year amounted to about 130,000*l.*, every clergyman receiving a minimum income of 150*l.*, and there were other sums bringing up the average income to 200*l.*—an amount equal to the average of the Established Church. (Hear, hear.) Besides that they had maintained missions with unabated liberality. They had built nearly 1,000 churches, and the whole amount contributed by that body of men during twenty-five years was about 8,000,000*l.* (Loud cheers.) An Establishment was just in England. It was not just in Ireland. Where the establishment was different the machinery must be different. The Established Church ought to be the Church of the poor, but that condition was not fulfilled in Ireland, where, as Mr. Macaulay justly said, it filled the rich with good things but sent the poor empty away. (Hear, hear.) The advantage of a voluntary Church was said to be that it was more rapid in conversion, and brought more persons into its fold. The Church in Ireland had been existence for three hundred years. Many distinguished men had passed from it into the Church of Rome, but it would be difficult to show that it had won many converts to the Protestant Church. (Hear, hear.) The question of the Irish Church had not been brought forward as a religious question, but as a question of justice and policy—(cheers)—and it was so regarded by the Roman Catholic laity. He was convinced that in these days the union of this United Kingdom could only be preserved by a policy of justice. (Cheers.)

He believed that one of the first duties of the new Parliament would be to examine the whole of our expenditure collectively, and to see whether it was possible, not only to maintain but to increase the efficiency and at the same time promote reasonable retrenchment. (Loud cheers.) With respect to the question of Reform, great credit had been taken by the party in power for enfranchising so large a body of persons. The spirit in which the supporters of that party were disposed to act was illustrated by the fact that, in the city of Oxford, 700 objections had been lodged for the purpose of cutting off the voters from the franchise. (Hear, hear.) These two modes of proceeding seemed to him very irreconcilable; they reminded him of the well-known lines:—

As the chameleon, who is known
To have no colour of his own,
But borrows from his neighbours here,
His black or white, his green or blue,
As if the rainbow were in tail
Settled on him, and his heirs male.

(Laughter and cheers.) Mr. VERNON HARCOURT, in a brief address, said his experience led him to entertain no doubt that the efforts of the Liberal party would be crowned with success. (Loud cheers.)

Lord JOHN MANNERS has issued his address to the electors of North Leicestershire. After recapitulating the leading administrative and legislative proceedings of the session, he says:—

That to this list cannot be added the reform of the bankruptcy laws, the improvement of the laws relating to the tenure of land in Ireland, and the development to its legitimate extent of the present system of education in England, is owing to no neglect on the part of the present Government, but to the interruption in the proper course of business during the last session, caused by the interpolation of a crude scheme for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church in Ireland. To any such scheme, or, in other words, to any proposal to sever the connexion which, from the earliest period of our history, has existed between the Church and the State, and which while hallowing Government with the sanctity of religion, has offered the truths and consolations of Christianity to the poorest of the people, I shall continue to offer every opposition in my power. That is the main issue which is now about to be submitted to the judgment of the country, and upon it I entertain no doubt that your opinion will ratify mine. In addition to the subjects which I have mentioned as unfortunately postponed last session, the early attention of Parliament will no doubt be directed to the incidence and management of local taxation, and to the best method of securing for our herds immunity from imported disease, while relieving the home metropolitan trade in animals from the vexatious, though at present salutary, restrictions.

Lord John concludes by soliciting "for the seventh time a renewal of the duty and the privilege of representing in Parliament the constituency of North Leicestershire."

PROSPECTS FOR THE PASTURES.—Grass is springing up in the Isle of Ely in abundance, and the general opinion is that the potatoes are growing again. Should the coming season be like that of 1826, in all probability the second crop would be superior to the first.

AN INSTANCE OF SLEEP-WALKING in the case of a boy occurred on Saturday morning in Islington. A policeman was on duty in Barnsbury-street, when, about three in the morning, he saw a lad in his night dress walking towards him. The boy traversed two hundred yards before he met the officer, and, on being spoken to, awoke. He was ten years of age. It was afterwards ascertained that he had descended several flights of stairs, and had unbarred and unlocked the front door before he got into the street.

Postscript.

Wednesday, September 2, 1868.

THE ABERGEELE INQUEST was resumed yesterday morning, when the testimony of the driver of the goods train was proceeded with. The evidence of Mrs. Dickens, who declared that she held a conversation with one of the inmates of the burning carriages, has attracted some attention, and on the reopening of the inquiry the counsel representing the railway company stated that he was prepared to contradict the witness on a most material point, and that was as to the side of the train on which the net was attached to the Post-office tender. She fixed her position by a reference to this net, and the company contend that it was on the opposite side of the train to that where Mrs. Dickens alleged she was standing. There appears to be too much reason to fear that an American gentleman, Mr. Bayard Clarke by name, was one of the ill-fated passengers who lost their lives. He was believed to be in the train, and it was known that he carried a revolver; and the fragments of a revolver were actually discovered among the debris.

EARL RUSSELL AND HIS TENANTRY.—The *Dundalk Express* mentions a fact which redounds highly to the honour of Lord Russell as an Irish landlord. He has written a letter to his tenantry, requesting them to vote as they please, and declaring that landlords have no right to coerce their tenants to vote against their conscience. It is, we fear, too much to hope that his good example will be generally followed.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.—Last night's *Gazette* contains an intimation that the honour of knighthood has been conferred upon Mr. Andrew Fairbairn, mayor of Leeds; Captain Arrow, deputy master of the Trinity House; and Mr. E. W. Watkin, chairman of the South-Eastern Railway, and one of the Liberal members for Stockport in the present Parliament. The Hon. F. A. Stanley is at the same time gazetted one of the Lords of the Admiralty, in the room of Mr. Du Cane, the newly-appointed Governor of Tasmania.

THE HUNDRETH ASTEROID.—On the eighteenth of April in the current year the ninety-eighth asteroid was discovered at Clinton, United States, by Mr. Peters, the American astronomer. Rather more than a month later the ninety-ninth asteroid was discovered at the Marseilles Observatory. And now news reaches us that the hundredth asteroid has been discovered by Professor Watson, of Detroit, Michigan.

Another pacific declaration reaches us from France. M. Magne, the Minister of Finance, at a banquet at Dordogne, on the 26th ult., proposed a toast to peace, and said in the course of his speech:—"Peace will be lasting, because Europe needs it and the Emperor desires it. France is strong enough to abstain from war without danger of being accused of weakness, for no one has any interest in disturbing her."

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

There was only a moderate supply of new English wheat on sale at Mark-lane to-day, but the condition of the samples was good. All descriptions met a dull inquiry, at the rates current on Monday last. There was a good show of foreign samples, and the quality of the new Baltic wheats now coming forward is excellent. The demand, however, ruled inactive, at about stationary quotations. Barley was steady in value and demand for both malting and grinding qualities. The floating grain cargo trade was very quiet, and in cargoes of wheat on passage trade was altogether at a standstill. Parcels of wheat off the coast changed hands slowly on former terms. All spring corn afloat was quiet, but unchanged in value. The flour trade was inactive.

| ARRIVALS THIS WEEK. | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------|---------|-------|--------|--------------------------|
| | Wheat. | Barley. | Malt. | Oats. | Flour. |
| English & Scotch | 930 | — | 430 | — | 850 |
| Irish | — | — | — | 2,350 | — |
| Foreign | 3,020 | 3,710 | — | 30,430 | 1,020 shs. 2,900 bls. |
| | | | | | Malze, 10,370 qrs. |

COURTS OF CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION.—The manufacturers and operatives of the Staffordshire Potteries have just formed a Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for the settlement of disputes in the pottery trade, consisting of ten employers and ten workmen. The operative members of the court were appointed on Wednesday evening at a large and enthusiastic meeting of potters at the Town-hall, Hanley, at which Mr. J. Ayshford Wise, formerly M.P. for Stafford, presided. Mr. Wise anticipated the happiest results from the adoption of the principle of conciliation and arbitration. Courts of Conciliation, he said, existed in ancient Greece and Rome, and had been in operation since 1803 in France, where there were eighty Boards of Conciliation and Arbitration. In the last few years no less than 174,487 trade disputes had been settled by the lesser court, which consisted of four members, leaving nearly 10,000 for the decision of the larger, or arbitration board; but when it was found that these 10,000 cases could not be settled by the Court of Conciliation, 4,589 were withdrawn, and only 5,178 went before the higher tribunal. These courts worked well in Belgium, but had been most successful in Denmark and Norway, where the principle had been applied not only to trade purposes, but to a settlement of differences in private life. Three years before the establishment of these courts there were 25,000 cases for the lawyers, but in the year following their formation there were but 9,000. The time had come for legislation on this question in England; and when submission on one side and dictation on the other must cease.

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For 1867.

The "ROYAL" has never had a larger body of Constituents than now.

FIRE BRANCH.

PREMIUMS in 1867 ... £460,553
being a larger revenue than in any preceding year
LOSSES by Fire in 1867... £292,125
NET PROFITS, after paying all losses and expenses £168,373

LIFE BRANCH.

Annual Average of new business in 1865-6-7... £301,000
Do. during previous Quinquennium... £283,000
Amount added to Life Reserve in 1867 ... £128,583

LIFE PROPOSALS now effected will participate in the increased share of profits recently conceded to Policy-holders.

PERCY M. DOVE, Manager and Actuary.

JOHN B. JOHNSTON, Secretary in London.

August, 1868.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"An Episcopalian."—Under consideration.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1868.

SUMMARY.

THE Ministerial journals announce that Parliament will be dissolved on the 9th of November. The elections commence on the 13th, and the new Legislature assemble about the 10th of December. It is hinted by the *Standard* that the difference between the two great political parties is not so much the course to be pursued relative to the Irish Church as a question of confidence in Mr. Disraeli. The distinction is quite immaterial. With only a small majority against him, there would be ample scope for the Premier's tactical skill, but should that majority exceed a hundred, as his own friends are known to expect, he must simply bow to their decision.

Election addresses are still the order of the day. Lord John Manners is the second Cabinet Minister who has issued his address, but his lordship is feeble and querulous. He complains that various measures which the Government hoped to carry last Session were dropped "by the interpolation of a crude scheme for the disestablishment and disendowment of the English Church in Ireland." He will, of course, strenuously resist this proposal—which will tend, in his view, "to sever the hallowed connection between Church and State"—but Lord John speaks to the electors of North Leicestershire in the tone of an Opposition candidate rather than of a Cabinet Minister. Perhaps his lordship is wrapped up in the considerations which, as Mr. Cardwell said at Oxford, have induced "the most active-minded members of the present Administration"—alluding to the Earl of Mayo, Sir J. Fergusson, and Mr. Ducane—to seek for themselves "agreeable residences in her Majesty's distant colonial possessions." Mr. Bright, on the other hand, expresses himself with the confidence inspired by the justice of the cause he advocates, and with the complacency of a veteran reposing from warfare. In addressing the electors of Birmingham, he says:—"In dealing with the Irish Establishment we are not promoting the spread of the Roman Catholic or damaging the influence of the Protestant religion. We do not touch religion at all. We deal only with the political institution, which has wholly failed to secure any good object, and which has succeeded only in weakening the loyalty and offending the sense of justice of the great majority of the Irish people. Our opponents speak of their zeal for Protestantism, and their loyalty to the Constitution. I prefer a Protestantism which is in

alliance with Christian kindness and with justice, and my loyalty to the constitution leads me to wish for the hearty union of the three kingdoms in allegiance to the Crown. I believe that Christianity and the constitution will be alike strengthened in these islands by the removal of the Irish Church Establishment." This is clearly and admirably put, and there is abundant evidence that the country takes the same view of the case as the hon. member for Birmingham.

From several quarters we hear of the starting of new Liberal candidates for seats hitherto held by their antagonists, both in counties and boroughs. In East Devon an attempt is to be made to secure one seat, a second candidate is to be started for South Warwickshire and South Suffolk, and it is asked why North Hants should be left in undisturbed possession of the Tories. In close boroughs like Petersfield and Launceston we find the independent candidates avowing their readiness to consider Mr. Gladstone's Irish Church policy on its merits, and in Chippenham the Liberal electors have banded together to put down intimidation and bribery. The signs of aggression on the part of Mr. Disraeli's friends are wholly wanting. Apparently they are losing heart everywhere. In Cornwall, for instance, a correspondent informs us that of the thirteen representatives of that county eleven will probably be Liberals. In Ireland, according to the *Freeman's Journal*, Protestant landlordism will not be able to secure a single additional county seat, while the Tories are likely to lose several votes in the boroughs.

Another high Tory official has been provisionally disposed of. The Earl of Mayo has himself announced that "before the next general election" he will have accepted the office of Governor-General of India. His lordship does not seem to be quite confident that he will, after all, become the successor of Sir John Lawrence. Nor are we. It may safely be predicted that the news will excite so fierce a storm in India that the Earl of Mayo will hesitate to quit England. His qualifications for the most responsible position that can be occupied by a British subject have yet to be discovered. Mr. Disraeli may think it a matter of no moment that a politician having no special aptitude, and who is not even known to have studied Indian subjects, should be appointed the ruler of a hundred and fifty millions of her Majesty's subjects in the East; but there can be little doubt that, should the Earl of Mayo proceed to Calcutta, he will be promptly recalled by the next Government. The appointment strikes us as by far the most reckless act ever committed by the present Prime Minister.

The meetings of the British Association at Norwich appear to have been as successful as any that have gone before, and the hearty hospitality of the citizens has been the theme of cordial eulogy by their distinguished visitors. The final entertainment provided by the princely liberality of the Mayor, was remarkable in many respects. The Bishop of Norwich, a leading Nonconformist minister, and a Roman Catholic canon, responded severally to the toast "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese, and the representatives of all denominations of religion." The Bishop welcomed men of science as fellow workmen and fellow students in different volumes of the works of the same Divine Author, and said that their meetings had tended to show "that men of faith should inquire more and men of science believe more." The Rev. G. Gould, on behalf of Nonconformists, the champions of free inquiry, assured his scientific hearers of the respect of his countrymen of all persuasions, so long as they pursued their inquiries in a legitimate and scientific method. Canon Dalton also claimed the presence of Father Secchi, of Rome, as evidence of the fact that the Pope and Catholic ecclesiastics took an interest in the progress of science. The courtesy and friendliness of men of different religious views at the Norwich meetings were, to say the least, certainly not surpassed by their purely scientific guests. If there was intolerance at all, it was not on their side.

Paris, or the Parisian newspapers, have been excited by a variety of sensational reports during the week. The rumours of a new Customs Union between France and Belgium, of large orders having been given for army clothing, of a warlike speech by Marshal Niel, of an alliance offensive and defensive between France and Spain, and of disquietude at Berlin, have been so rife that at length official authority has interposed. The *Moniteur de l'Armée* denies that any special contracts have been made, and says that there were never more soldiers absent from their regiments than at the present time. The Minister of Finance is more emphatic. M. Magne declares that "peace will be lasting because Europe

needs it, and the Emperor desires it. France is strong enough to abstain from war without danger of being accused of weakness, for no one has any interest in disturbing her." But, as the *Liberté* says, "Peace with 1,200,000 men is rather dear; war without battles is not very glorious. The present uncertainty enervates and ruins France." The situation is probably accurately defined by the Paris correspondent of the *Times*, who cannot be charged with being an alarmist. "So far as it is possible to divine an enigma," he says, "the Emperor desires peace, but at any moment his mind may change, and the two things most likely to change it are—first, the persuasion that the nation wishes for war, and, secondly, serious symptoms of opposition to his Government at home."

The terrible war between Brazil and Paraguay is evidently drawing to a close. Humaita, the great fortress on which President Lopez placed his hopes, has at length fallen into the hands of the allies, but the victors sustained such heavy losses that they could not follow up their success. The Paraguayans have been beaten but not subdued, and have retired behind their other defences. Probably this sanguinary conflict will now be terminated by negotiations between the belligerents. It is certain that the war is unpopular in Brazil, and still more so at Monte Video.

THE DUKE OF ABERCORN ON IRELAND.

THE Duke of Abercorn is the right man in the right place. If the Irish Viceroyalty be a present necessity, none is better adapted to fill it than this ennobled Irish peer, who, though Tory in his traditional sympathies, sinks the partisan in the royal representative, and dispenses the hospitalities of Dublin Castle with a munificence as impartial as it is dignified. If the public services of the head of the house of Hamilton have not been so distinguished and long-lived as to deserve a dukedom, has he not entertained royalty in princely splendour? and do not the chiefs of his party consider themselves bound to profit by these very rare opportunities of showering honours and dignities upon faithful friends? His Grace is broad in his sympathies, if not in his political creed; knows nothing of ecclesiastical bias in the courtesies of his high office; can make a progress through the northern province without awakening Catholic jealousy, or encouraging the Protestant lust of ascendancy; and in the exemplary discharge of his duties as a landed proprietor is a conspicuous example to his brother peers. If Ulster were, all Ireland, nothing could be more gratifying or significant than the Duke's enthusiastic reception in Londonderry last week, on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society.

His Grace has the art of infusing into every subject he handles this sanguine spirit of the optimist Viceroy. On his visit to the "maiden city" he presented a glowing picture of the present condition of Ireland. "It may not," he told the good people of Derry, "be unacceptable to you to feel that quiet and peace, of which you set so good an example, is at this moment, with some rare exceptions, enjoyed in every part of the country. I say with some exceptions, because I think that certain atrocious outrages which have greatly disturbed the public mind must be taken as local indications rather than as any index to the general state of the country. When we see our prisons without a single political prisoner detained under the extensive powers afforded by Parliament to the Irish Government; when we see our courts of justice without one political prisoner for trial; when we see a remarkable absence of crime in every county assize, I think we may fairly look with some confidence upon the future." There is the prospect of "a full and sufficient harvest"; a much larger acreage of ground is devoted to the growth of cereals instead of potatoes; distress is diminishing in Connaught, the poorest of the four provinces; emigration has fallen off one-fifth; and the Irish contributions to the Imperial revenue have increased in the year to the extent of 22,568*l*. In many parts of Ireland wages are higher than they were, and though the stock of cattle, and especially of pigs, in the country has fallen off, the long drought and the short supply of fodder will fully account for the phenomenon.

The Duke of Abercorn judiciously abstained from alleging that the causes of Irish discontent were removed—otherwise he might have been met with the inquiry, why then continue the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act? It may be true, as he says, and everyone trusts, that "the seditious disturbances and disloyal feelings of the Fenian conspiracy are falling away, while a growing spirit of respect for the law,

and an inclination to habits of peace and order, to the quiet and industrial occupations of ordinary life, are taking their place." Still Parliament was allowed to separate only a few weeks ago without the Government hinting at a restoration of the constitutional guarantees of her Majesty's subjects on the other side of the Channel, and Ireland continues at the present moment under a régime which implies the existence of a serious distrust of her loyalty to the Crown and the institutions of the empire. Material prosperity, a singular absence of crime, higher wages and empty prisons, on the one hand; on the other, a lack of hearty sympathy with English rule, requiring exceptional measures to meet a latent disaffection which may once again burst forth in disorder and insurrection.

It was not to be expected that his Grace would attribute the present tranquil state of Ireland in any degree to renewed hope in the impartial legislation of the British Parliament. That would have been a reflection on the political shortcomings of his own friends. The demand of "Justice to Ireland" which has arisen in this country, and has found expression in Mr. Gladstone's policy, excites no genuine sympathy in the Tory ranks. An amiable Viceroy and a mild administration of the law, are better adapted to soothe the present irritation than to change the sentiments of a people; and it is because Irishmen have at length learned to confide in the good faith and honest intentions of English Liberal statesmen that they are tranquil and patient. Would that happy state of things last for a single month if there were any expectation of a continuance of a Tory Government and policy? The Duke of Abercorn is a fair-weather viceroy. He performs his part with grace, dignity, and forbearance. But he is after all only a figure-head—a popular nobleman who can pilot Ireland through a transition period till the time has come for sweeping remedial measures. Fenianism, or the disaffection that underlies it, is not dead. It only slumbers. Nor can the high personal virtues of a Duke of Abercorn exorcise the virus. The just legislation of a Liberal Parliament promises, ere long, not only to quench the spirit of disaffection, and make it safe to restore the reign of constitutional law, but it promises also to bind the Irish people to this country in ties of sympathy and affection so close that the "great difficulty" of our statesmen will be at length overcome, and the British empire become a unity in reality as well as in name.

"THE WHENCE AND THE WHITHER."

"No man ever yet understood the universe." So wrote Thomas Carlyle to a young man lost in mazy wanderings through its mysteries. "The end of man is not a thought but an action." And so must the sages admit who return from the heights of speculation at Norwich to the common dusty plain of practical life. Yet as action cannot be separated from thought, so neither can we make social advancement without science. This fact is abundantly illustrated in the records of the British Association; and never was more fully recognised than in the discussions of this year. Nevertheless, many good people are disquieted; they think there has been over-much speculation; they question the tendencies of science, and, as present theories acquire influence, they fear a disastrous result.

The disciples of the Book and the men of science distrust each other, and the late meeting at Norwich makes the fact still more apparent. While "the drum ecclesiastic" has been spoken of with open contempt, there has, on the one side, also been a measure of avowed reserve; and on the other, too often there has been shown an undue haste to contradict statements the bearing of which has seemed hostile to the letter of Scripture. The inaugural address of the President—which in many quarters is looked for now with an interest like that which attaches to a Queen's Speech or a Congressional Message—was not sparing in language when it approached this controverted ground. Containing powerful passages, and much excellent sense, yet lacking unity, it was chiefly distinguished by its ardent advocacy of Darwinian views, and its positive condemnation of "natural theology" as "the most dangerous of all two-edged weapons"—"to the scientific man a delusion, and to the religious man a snare." The Darwinian theory Dr. Hooker discussed chiefly in its relation to his favourite study of botany; but he did not shrink from the general assertion, that "the theory of natural selection, so far from being a thing of the past, is an accepted doctrine with every philosophical naturalist." Of those who oppose

it on "metaphysical grounds," he says: "their arguments are strongly imbued with prejudice, and even odium, and as such are beyond the pale of scientific criticism"; and he reiterates the conclusion of Agassiz that "the battle of the evidences will have to be fought on the field of physical science, and not on that of the metaphysical." To geological objectors he replies by claiming one of their chief interpreters, Sir Charles Lyell, as a convert heroic enough to proclaim his altered views. The astronomical argument that "the age of the inhabited world as calculated by solar physics is limited to a period inconsistent with Darwin's views," he sets aside by denying "a queenly perfection" to that science which "lately erred two millions of miles in so fundamental a datum as the earth's distance from the sun." But of astronomy he speaks with more respect as "having first snatched the torch from the hands of dogmatic teachers." Geology followed, but not "till this our day succeeded in divesting religious teaching of many cobwebs of scientific error"; while now "prehistoric archæology steps in to proclaim the existence of men many thousands of years before the historic period." As regards the attitude of the pulpit, of late years science "has been more frequently named than ever," but too often, Dr. Hooker complains, "with dislike or fear rather than with trust or welcome." Those clergymen who have written on science he does not account "religious teachers in the ordinary sense of the word," nor are we informed "in what light their scientific writings are regarded by brother clergymen—especially those resident in the country"! In this manner, while not wanting in reverence when the greater questions of humanity are approached, the President's address both alleges and expresses an antagonism between the men of science, and the men of faith. In like strain were some other of the most brilliant addresses delivered at Norwich.

Against all "oppositions of science falsely so called," Christianity will oppose a calm front. The ignorance or mistakes of her professors can take nothing from her inherent authority. There can be no actual antagonism between what God has said, and what God has done. Every fact gleaned from the remote past, she will welcome as having its place in the development of the Divine purpose. Every fact disclosed in the laboratory, or gathered by painful observation of nature, she will accept as helping to reveal the Divine wisdom, which works in orderly procession. Every truth, by whatever agency established, she will hail as bringing something to the final harmony for which she looks. But the guesses of men she will not accept, nor their crude interpretations of fact. She will insist that all facts shall be alike included in their inquiries—that all which concerns the conscience and religion of mankind shall have a place—that all spiritual phenomena, all moral necessities, all human needs shall be impartially considered. She demands that the historic period shall not be overlooked in a sudden enthusiasm for prehistoric ages—that the events of eighteen hundred years ago shall not be forgotten in the zeal to explore far-reaching millenniums—that the birth, and death, and resurrection of Christ, shall have their place in the records of time. Were the Bible to perish out of the world—which God forbid!—these events would remain enwoven in its history; and were all faith and charity to die out of human hearts, the laws of God which govern spiritual things would abide the same, and become apparent in the result. If there be any antagonism, it is not between Christianity and science, but only between the interpretations put upon two distinct series of facts—between the mere theories of science, and certain dogmatic assertions of human creeds.

Science offers as yet no certain base on which to build a new theology. The tone of all the chief speakers at the Association may be noted in evidence. The prominent use which is made as an argument of Sir Charles Lyell's conversion is only one illustration. Significant is the manner in which Dr. Hooker, adopting the words of another magnate, affirms of the theory of Pangenesis, that latest born of hypotheses, supposed to contain the rationale of all the phenomena of reproduction and inheritance, that it must be accepted "as a provisional hypothesis, to be discarded only when a more plausible one shall be brought forward." Even Professor Huxley's eloquent disquisition on the Negro, with all its affluence of illustration, is but a most interesting question. Men may well, therefore, be excused who decline to surrender their old beliefs on such shifting grounds.

The inability of science to cope with the great central questions of life was never more distinctly confessed than at this meeting of the British Association. There was a discussion on Darwinism, at which some foolish things were said by Christian opponents, but by Dr. Tris-

tram at least a wise one, when he pointed out that this now famous theory "relates only to the form of life, not to the principle of life, still less to the moral principle or soul." Dr. Hooker quotes with emphasis, as the words of "one of our deepest thinkers," this statement, that "if religion and science are to be reconciled, the basis of the reconciliation must be this deepest, widest, and most certain of facts, that the power which the universe manifests to us is utterly inscrutable." To Professor Tyndall even his warmest opponents are indebted for the lucid words, in which, after stating the position of the Materialist, he limits the conclusions of science. Presuming it proved that "a definite thought and a definite molecular action in the brain occur simultaneously," yet he says "the problem of the connection of the body and soul is as insoluble in its modern form as it was in the pre-scientific ages." His words will bear repeating:—"If you ask the Materialist whence is this 'matter,' who or what divided it into molecules, who or what impressed upon them this necessity of running into organic forms, he has no answer. Science also is mute in reply to these questions. But if the Materialist is confounded and science rendered dumb, who else is entitled to answer? To whom has the secret been revealed? Let us lower our heads and acknowledge our ignorance one and all." Professor Tyndall indeed suggests that "a time may come when this ultra-scientific region by which we are now enfolded may offer itself to terrestrial, if not human, investigation." Meanwhile we are not in doubt. This is the utmost goal to which science can lead us, and where she fails, religion steps forward. Long before the time thus anticipated, even men of science may come to acknowledge that the essential Christian doctrines are but the expression of deep spiritual laws, and that the methods of salvation they declare, are not the arbitrary inventions of a book, but inseparable from the present order and constitution of things. There may be a growth of ideas by "natural selection"; but, if we may be allowed the phrase, there will also be seen a creation of ideas, according to the law of a Divine Revelation.

Dr. Hooker says truly that "to search out the whence and the whither of existence is an unquenchable instinct of the human mind." "The whence" may perhaps be left to the patient investigations of archæologists; but "the whither" is to multitudes of men an immediate question of the greatest practical urgency, and of moment beyond all comparison. The answer cannot be relegated to the slow researches of science. There are thousands of inquiring minds who cannot suspend their faith on the determination of the antiquity of man or the origin of species. It has happened to some, in the midst of these controversies, to measure the full pathos of those words of Mary—"They have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him"; yet there has survived a yearning, which no sanhedrim of science could have power to quench. While therefore the fullest right of inquiry must be freely accorded, we believe that the only safeguard against a destructive atheism will be found in a return to the Master's feet. If, like the first disciples, men are content to learn from Him, their knowledge will widen as their faith grows strong, and they will be able to await without fear the ultimate results of scientific discovery.

SCOTLAND AND THE LIBERAL PARTY.

LAST week, in endeavouring to form a rough estimate of the probable results of the General Election, we stated that "Toryism in Scotland is absolutely dying out." That this is not the language of hyperbole, but of sober truth, a few facts will prove. Under the new Reform Act, Scotland will in future return sixty instead of fifty-three members to Parliament—eight new seats having been given to her, and two small counties, Peebles and Selkirk, being amalgamated for Parliamentary purposes. Strange as it may appear, the appeal to the constituencies north of the Tweed is almost decided more than two months in advance of the general election, as will be seen by a glance at the corrected list of candidates given elsewhere. There are no less than thirty-one seats for which Liberals are likely to be returned without the semblance of a contest. Thus, in more than one-half the Scotch constituencies the return of Liberal candidates will not even be challenged by their opponents. Among these we include the three seats for the city of Glasgow, for which, notwithstanding the minorities' clause, no Conservative candidate has, as yet, ventured seriously to put in a claim. In sixteen other constituencies there is the prospect of a conflict, but it is Liberal against Liberal; no Tory venturing

to show his face. These are the Border burghs, Dumfries, Dumbarton, Dundee—where there are four Liberal claimants for two seats—Edinburgh (2)—for which city Mr. M'Laren and Mr. Miller will not improbably be elected without opposition—Fifehire, Greenock, Kilmarnock, Kircudbright, Leith, Linlithgow, Paisley, Stirling, and Wick. In all these places the conflict is one of persons and not of principles, and so weak is the Conservative element that it cannot even profit by division in the ranks of its foes. No stronger proof than this could be given of the general prevalence of Liberal sentiments among the educated population of Scotland. In three places only, and those small counties where landlord influence is paramount, are the Tory candidates to have a walk over. Mr. Disraeli cannot command a single town constituency of North Britain.

The remaining ten seats of Scotland will be contested between Liberals and Tories. They are North and South Ayrshire, Buteshire, Clackmannanshire, Edinburgh county, South Lanarkshire, Peebles and Selkirk, Haddingtonshire, and the two new Universities. Assuming that four only of these constituencies—viz., Clackmannan, South Lanarkshire, and the two Universities—will return Liberal members, the aggregate result will be as follows:—

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Liberals unopposed | 32 |
| Seats contested by Liberals only | 15 |
| Seats won by Liberals (say) | 4 |
| | — |
| | 51 |
| Tories unopposed | 3 |
| Seats won by Tories (say) | 6—9 |
| | — |
| Majority for the Liberals | 42 |

That is to say, Scotland is most likely to send to the new House of Commons fifty-one Liberals against nine Tories. In other words, *seven-tenths* of the entire electoral vote of a country pre-eminently Protestant will be cast in favour of the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Protestant State Church—so little influence has the "No Popery" bugbear among the intelligent Presbyterians north of the Tweed! We congratulate the Liberals of Scotland upon this gratifying prospect. By a decision almost approaching to unanimity, they have already virtually declared in favour of the principles represented by Mr. Gladstone; and towards the large majority which the Liberal leader will command in the new Parliament they will undoubtedly contribute nearly one-half.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

The tone adopted by two semi-official French papers, the *Constitutionnel* and the *Pays*, is just now the subject of much remark in Paris. The former organ writes in the most tranquillising manner, and speaks of peace as certain. The latter openly talks of war, and does all it can to excite public feeling against Prussia. Yet both journals are believed to write in accordance with instructions from headquarters. Towards the close of an article in the *Pays*, urging immediate war, the writer exclaims: "And who knows what may happen? God protects France! That is true, as the Emperor says; but we must help God." It is believed that there is a strong party at Court encouraged by the Empress favourable to war and a restrictive policy. The *Débats* prints a Berlin letter, stating that, although despatches from the Prussian embassy in Paris represent the Emperor as most pacifically inclined, information reaching the Prussian Government from other sources does not tally with the official communications; and that the staff officers in the Chalons camp talk openly of war as at hand. Although the Prussian Government does not take all these officers say for gospel, and knows well enough that a camp is not a congress, it cannot overlook the symptom, and feels considerable uneasiness about it.

The *Moniteur* contains a report of Marshal Vailant's speech at Dijon, on Monday, in opening the Councils-General. After pointing out the abundant harvest just gathered in, he said:—

This abundance is the more to be appreciated because it occurs amid the most reassuring circumstances. The Emperor said, very recently, that peace must not be disturbed, and that everything promised well for its duration. Indeed, gentlemen, abundance in peace, but in a peace that has not been preserved at the cost of patriotism—you have there, in two words, the position of our country.

The *Moniteur de l'Armée* yesterday publishes an article refuting the assertion of one of the Paris correspondents of the *Nord*, who stated that orders had been given that special garments to be used by the troops in time of war should be made. The *Moniteur* also contradicts other assertions of the same correspondent, and says:—"There were never more soldiers absent from their regiments on leave than at present, and the only military exercises now taking place are those at the camp at Chalons and Launemazan."

The Councils-General are holding their meetings throughout France. At a banquet given a few days ago at Doubs in connection with all of these meetings, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Prefect, and

three sub-prefects, suddenly left the table because the health of M. Latour du Moulin was proposed. M. Latour du Moulin is only a member of the *tiers-parti*.

M. Henri Rochefort has undergone another trial (in his absence), this time on the comprehensive charge of inciting to hatred and contempt of the Government. He has been sentenced to thirteen months' imprisonment and a fine of ten thousand francs. The Duke d'Aumale has offered M. Rochefort an asylum at Twickenham.

The *Figaro*, almost rivaling the *Lanterne* in ability and daring, has again come under the ban of the press censorship. In the streets it has been forbidden by the French Government. It is now stated that the immediate effect of this measure has been to increase the circulation of the paper to the extent of 4,000 copies.

The journey of the Emperor and Empress of the French to Biarritz has been postponed in consequence of the visit of the Count and Countess di Girgenti to their Majesties at Fontainebleau. The count is brother of Francois II. of Naples, and the countess eldest daughter of the Queen of Spain. It is hinted that the invitation is a retaliation for the apparent avoidance of Paris by Prince Humbert and his bride, who have lately visited other European capitals without coming to Paris.

The *Patrie* says that the departure of the Emperor for the Chalons Camp will be again adjourned, and that the court will not leave Fontainebleau for Biarritz till September 25.

Since the astonishing success of M. Grévy in the Jura, the democratic or republican party, which begins to think itself strong enough to stand alone, is much less disposed than it was to coalesce with Orleanists, legitimists, and clericals. Instead of the "Liberal union," which for some time they were resigned to, their cry is now the "Democratic union." M. Jules Favre, in a speech made the other day at Agen, where a banquet was given him on the occasion of his defending the *Messager du Sud-Ouest*, declared himself distinctly in favour of a thorough democratic union in regard to all coming elections. At the second ballot he would have his friends vote for any Opposition candidate rather than the Government one; but he is against any coalition with heterogeneous elements in the first instance.

GERMANY.

A letter from Berlin in the *North Eastern Correspondence* gives some interesting information relative to the feeling of the Prussian Court in regard to the anticipations of a Franco-Prussian war. He says it is quite certain that the Emperor Alexander and King William conversed on this subject during their interview at Schwabach the other day, and that the Czar insisted strongly on the necessity of an alliance between Russia and Prussia as the only means of securing the latter against a French attack. This view appeared to produce some impression on King William, who, however, thought that peace was not sufficiently in danger to render the conclusion of a formal alliance indispensable. This opinion, the correspondent adds, is entirely in accordance with the policy of Count Bismarck.

Official reports from the residence of Count Bismarck at Varzin announce that he is progressing towards recovery, and that the effects of his fall from his horse are gradually disappearing.

A letter from Berlin states that the Minister of Justice in Prussia has directed one of the judges to draw up a bill for the abolition of the punishment of death, which will be submitted to the Chambers directly they meet next session.

AUSTRIA.

The Minister of Justice has notified the superior civil tribunals that in case the clerical courts should refuse to deliver up any documents in their custody when required for legal purposes, they must be forced to do so by the employment of legal execution.

The Minister of the Interior has issued a circular addressed to the governors of the provinces referring to the new political organisation of the empire. He expresses strongly his opinion that those officials who give their countenance to parties hostile to the constitution should be removed from Government employment.

ITALY.

General La Marmora and General Cialdini have been carrying on such a very animated controversy respecting the campaign of 1866, that King Victor Emmanuel has determined to interfere, in order to put a stop to it. The Italian papers announce that the two officers are to meet at his Majesty's hunting lodge, near Pisa, where it is expected they will be duly admonished and then made to shake hands. The public feeling against La Marmora is very strong. A short time since a stone was thrown at him as he was passing through the streets, and the day before an anonymous placard posted upon the walls of Florence announced that he had left for Paris, and that the Prussian ambassador had taken down his flag. The feeling against France had been much embittered by the recent disputes respecting the campaign of 1866.

AMERICA.

The report of the collisions between the whites and negroes in the Southern States is, unhappily, becoming a regular item in the news from America, and as the negro question, in one form or another, will be ever coming to the surface during the contest for the Presidency, there is at present no hope of any amelioration of the existing state of things. The

contest is gradually taking a wider character, and both sides are coming to the conclusion that the great questions of State rights and negro enfranchisement involved in the war are to be fought over again in the electoral campaign for the Presidency. In such a struggle the negro will have to bear the brunt of the war. The last mails brought intelligence of fatal collisions in one or two States, and by the advices received yesterday, we learn that another collision had occurred at Atlanta, the negroes having resisted the attempts of the police to arrest disorderly freedmen. The police were reinforced, and two negroes were killed and several wounded. In Tennessee the Ku Klux Klan outrages are increasing.

The Democrats for Ohio have nominated Mr. Vallandigham, notorious for his opposition to the policy of President Lincoln, for Congress.

THE WAR IN PARAGUAY.

By the West India mail intelligence has been received from Rio Janeiro to August 8th. On the 16th of July, in consequence of information received that the Paraguayans were evacuating Humaita, 12,000 allies advanced against the works and captured a redoubt, but were compelled to retreat, during which the Paraguayans opened a terrible fire upon them. The Marquis de Caxias estimated the loss of the allies at 600, but other officers state that the loss was more. In a second engagement, on the 16th, the allies attempted to expel the Paraguayans from a battery in the Chaco, but were repulsed. A rout ensued, pursued by the Paraguayans. The loss of the allies is officially stated to be 550 men killed and wounded.

The Paraguayans evacuated Humaita on the 25th, and, unperceived by the allies, crossed over to the Chaco. The allies took possession, and found no food, but a considerable quantity of ammunition, and 200 cannon, which had been spiked. Those of the waterside batteries were thrown into the river. In the rear of the River Tebiquary General Lopez had raised defences of a formidable character, extending to the centre of Paraguay, and beyond where ironclads could operate. To attempt taking these works, and follow Lopez to his arsenals and base of operations at Villa Rica, was considered impossible, and would have entailed a greater waste of life and treasure than even hitherto had been the case.

The new Ministry has postponed the elections for deputies and senators until January next. The United States gunboat *Wasp* will be allowed to go to Ascension to convey Mr. Washburn and family from Paraguay.

The *Buenos Ayres Standard* says that both engagements in Paraguay resulted in favour of the Paraguayans. The attack upon Humaita ended in a disastrous retreat, owing to the terrible execution of the Paraguayan artillery. The fire was irresistible at all points, and the Paraguayans rent the air with their shouts as they butchered the unfortunate Brazilians, who were hemmed in on all sides. The precise number killed was not known, but the divisions were literally cut to pieces.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The illness of the Crown Prince of Belgium is becoming very critical.

It is said that the next promotion to the Cardinalate will include Archbishop Manning.

Prince Napoleon, who is taking a cruise, *incognito*, in the *Jerome* Napoleon, visited Hamburg on Sunday.

Count de Cambacères (son and heir of the Duke) has been killed by a fall from a precipice in Switzerland.

A telegram from Florence states that General Garibaldi has resigned his seat as a member of the Italian Parliament.

The King of Bavaria has conferred the Grand Cross of the Civil Order of Merit upon Prince Hohenlohe in recognition of his services to his country.

It is stated that the Russian Government intends to open negotiations with Sweden for the purchase of a Norwegian port, where the sea is never frozen, owing to the effect of the Gulf Stream.

A letter from Rome says that the health of the Pope is excellent, and that when complimented recently on his appearance by one of the prelates, Pius IX. replied, "I eat well, I drink well, I sleep well; I never was better in my life."

There has been an earthquake at Gibraltar, the first which has occurred at the rock for many years. It took place on the 18th. Two distinct shocks were felt, but it does not appear that any serious damage resulted.

It is rumoured in Paris that at the commencement of the ensuing year the young Prince Imperial, who will not then be thirteen years of age, is to be installed in the Palace of the Elysée, with, of course, a separate household of his own.

The attempt made at Havre to popularise bull-fights in France has not met with sufficient success to encourage a renewal of the speculation. The seats at 10fr. have been gradually reduced to 2fr. 50c., and yet the circus is but thinly attended. The entire company, *toros* and *toradores*, is about to return to Spain.

There has been another duel between French journalists. The combatants were the well-known M. Paul de Cassagnac, the editor of the semi-official *Pays*, and his cousin, M. Lissagaray, the editor of a provincial paper. The meeting took place on Sunday in the Bois de Vesinet, near Paris; and it is stated that M. Lissagaray was rather severely wounded.

THE ALFRED HOSPITAL AT SYDNEY.—The list of subscriptions to the Prince Alfred Hospital continues

to steadily increase, nearly 18,000*l.* having been already collected. It appears that 23,000*l.* are required to erect a plain building, and 7,000*l.* more to erect a memorial building.

AMERICAN REPUTATION.—Chief Justice Chase, in a recent charge to the grand jury of the United States Circuit Court for West Virginia, took occasion to declare that "the national debt is the price of the national existence, and binds irrevocably the good faith of the people. Its inviolable obligation has been recognised by the 14th amendment of the Constitution of the United States"; and he added, "The debt contracted must be paid in perfect good faith."

ACCIDENT TO M. DE MONTALEMBERT.—The *Franchise Comté* of Besancon says:—"A serious accident has occurred at Charquemont. Count de Montalembert was seated in a light carriage, the horse of which was rather fiery. The driver, in order to give the animal a feed of hay, imprudently removed the bridle. The horse at once attempted to dart off, and the coachman, in endeavouring to restrain him, was killed. The Count was thrown from his seat, but happily escaped with only a few slight bruises."

THE REV. W. MORLEY PUNSHON, the eminent Wesleyan divine, was married on the 15th inst., to his deceased wife's sister. We have no law against such unions in Ontario, and no State Church to lay down prohibited degrees of affinity, and the knowledge of this fact may have been one of Mr. Punshon's reasons for coming to Canada. Liberal offers have been made to him by various Churches in the United States, and the offer of 2,000*l.* sterling per annum is still kept open to the Rev. Newman Hall by a Congregational Church in Chicago.—*Canadian Letter in the Star.*

MADAME VICTOR HUGO died at Brussels on Wednesday. Her remains were removed from that city on Friday night. The funeral car was followed by a number of mourning coaches to the railway-station, where it was placed on a special wagon to be conveyed to the cemetery of Villequier, in France. Immediately behind the wagon, in a carriage specially reserved, were M. Victor Hugo, his two sons, Charles and Francis, M. Henri Rochefort (of the *Lanterne*), M. Camille Beru, and three other friends who were to accompany the remains to their destination—M. Auguste Vacquerie, Paul Meurice, and Dr. Allix. On arriving at the frontier M. Hugo and his sons returned, and arrived at Brussels on Saturday morning. M. Beru and M. Rochefort accompanied them.

A NEW ROMAN SAINT.—Nothing is now talked of at Rome but the new saint, Maria Taigi, a washer-woman in the service of the Chigi family, who died here in 1837, in the odour of sanctity. A great sensation has been created by her prophecies, which were confided to her confessor, Father Natali, now ninety years of age, who has faithfully related them as the events successively happened. The proofs of her present residence in heaven are incontestable, though her body is still on earth, having just been exhumed from the catacomb of the Church of St. Chrysogen in Trastevere. The corpse was found perfectly fresh and flexible, and is now exposed in a chapel ardente, raised at the expense of the Princess Barberini, in the aforesaid church, where everybody in Rome, with the exception of myself, has kissed its feet.—*Roman Correspondent of Pall Mall Gazette.*

PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND THE TAILORS.—President Johnson received delegates from the International Tailors' Union Convention on the 12th of August at the White House. About fifty delegates were present. In addressing them the President said:—"We should not be ashamed of our profession, whether tailors, shoemakers, or blacksmiths, or of any profession in the mechanical line? Labour should be elevated into an aristocracy, and if all mechanics and labourers will pursue the right course the time will come when we will create an aristocracy of labour. An aristocracy of labour would produce merit, morals, virtue, and intelligence. That is the kind of aristocracy I am in favour of. It is not the profession of the man, but his associations, that degrade him. Let us endeavour to elevate ourselves, and we elevate our professions. It is worth that makes the man. Let us rely upon our own worth and merit for success. The most pleasant hours of my life were those I spent in my tailor's shop. I am proud of it. I was not only a mechanic, but had the reputation of being a good one. I do not wish to be facetious, but as there has been a good deal said about the President being a tailor, I will only go back to the Scripture, which says Adam was a tailor, and was the first to take a stitch or make a suit of clothes, and surely, if Adam was a tailor, I do not consider myself, as President, degraded to have been one. I have only spoken in a friendly way, and I thank all present for the compliment you have paid me. I have the gratification of saying that, notwithstanding my early calling, when I, too, worked as a tailor, I have not become giddy or proud in the position I now hold as President. Once more I thank you, gentlemen, for the honour of this visit."—*New York Times.*

THE RACHEL SCANDAL has passed into a new phase. The very free discussion of the verdict in the London papers has called forth three or four rather singular letters from the jurors. First, a juror stated that there were eleven for a verdict of "Guilty," and one for "Not guilty"; then another juror denied the statement; and now the foreman and six of his colleagues reply by maintaining its accuracy; whilst another juror broadly insinuates that the objecting juror, who was an auctioneer, had been bribed by receiving the commission for a large sale. The notice to bail Madame Rachel has been withdrawn, and she remains in Newgate.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION AT NORWICH.

The sectional meetings of the British Association concluded on Wednesday. The concluding meeting was held in St. Peter's Hall. The old and the new life and annual members and the associates now number 2,004. A committee was appointed to inquire into the expediency of making further provision for the prosecution of physical research in Great Britain. Professor Phillips, in moving a vote of thanks to the Mayor, the local secretaries, and the executive committee, testified to the hospitable manner in which the association had been received by the inhabitants of Norwich. A vote of thanks was also presented to the bishop of the diocese for having thrown open the cathedral during the visit of the association to the city.

On Wednesday evening the Mayor (J. J. Colman, Esq.) gave a sumptuous *déjeuner* to the president, officers, and members of the association, in St. Andrew's Hall, to which some 700 guests sat down. After the customary toasts the Mayor gave "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese, and the Representatives of all Denominations of Religion." The Bishop of Norwich, in responding, welcomed men of science as fellow-workmen and fellow-students in different volumes of the works of the same Divine Author. The clergy and men of science had a mutual interest in the prosecution of each other's labours, and neither could say to the other, "I have no need of thee." The great gathering which had now closed had tended to show that men of faith should inquire more, and men of science believe more. (Hear, hear.) The Rev. G. GOULD, who also returned thanks, said—

On behalf of the Nonconformist ministers of this county and of this city, I desire to express my hearty thanks to the Mayor for proposing, and you for receiving, the toast of our health. Feeling as I do that a free inquiry in matters of religion in respect of the Nonconformist bodies of this country has received an illustration in our history, I wish to say to the men of science who are round these tables to-day, that so long as they pursue their inquiries in a legitimate and scientific method, they need never fear for the result which will be achieved by them in the esteem of their countrymen and in the influence which they will have upon the public mind of England. We have advanced, by a steadfast adherence to principles which we have believed to be founded in immutable truth, from a despised body, first of all to the toleration, and then gradually to the recognition of our civil rights; and now we are marching onward to the religious equality which we claim. (Hear, hear.) And I am glad that at meetings of this kind in England this right is being recognised, and that men of science need never fear as to their securing to themselves the respect and the right to which they are entitled if they will but pursue their inquiries in a scientific method, thoroughly adhering to that method truly, leaving the conclusion to God and to their countrymen. (Cheers.)

The Rev. Canon DALTON (Roman Catholic), who spoke of the presence of Father Secchi, of Rome, at the meeting, which showed that the Pope and the Catholic ecclesiastics took an interest in the progress of science, read a letter from Father Secchi, in which that ecclesiastic acknowledged in the warmest terms the hospitality and kindness extended to him in Norwich. (Cheers.) Sir W. RUSSELL, M.P., replied to the toast of "The Houses of Parliament." The Mayor next proposed "Success to the British Association," coupled with the name of the President, Dr. Hooker. (Cheers.) Dr. HOOKER, in responding, said the members of the association did the best they could to shed the light of science on others, but the success of their meetings depended much upon the arrangements made to receive them. So far as the Norwich meeting was concerned, it was one of the most numerous attended which the association had yet held, while the number of scientific men from abroad who had attended the present meeting had been far greater than had been the case on any previous occasion. The attendance at the sectional meetings had also been large and well sustained. Amongst the subsequent speakers were Professor Nilsson, of Sweden; Chevalier Negri, of Italy; Professor Phillips and Sir John Lubbock. Professor HUXLEY, in proposing a vote of thanks to their entertainers, said: After he had been in Norwich a couple of days, somebody asked him how he liked the place, when he replied that he thought it was a charming spot, but that if there was a fault to be remedied, it might be that the streets should be a little straighter; but that after all that did not matter so very much, because, however often you lost your way, and however numerous might be the turns, you were sure to find hospitality at the end of every lane. (Cheers.) The health of the Mayor was drunk with great enthusiasm.

On Thursday several excursions were made. Some went to Cromer, others to Lynn and Hunstanton, a third party to Walsingham and Holkham, and a fourth to Great Yarmouth. A number also visited the extensive works of Messrs. J. and J. Colman, who employ about 1,100 hands in the manufacture of mustard, starch, blue, and paper. The works are situated on the banks of the Wensum, and all the principal warehouses are connected with the Great Eastern Railway. There are as many as sixteen steam-engines in the works, their aggregate force amounting altogether to 1,000 horse power. Messrs. Colman are not unmindful of the welfare of those whom they employ. Thus they have provided a luncheon kitchen, where the men can obtain a good substantial lunch or dinner of hot meat and potatoes for 3*d.* A considerable number of the men daily avail themselves of their employer's kindness. Hard by the works Messrs. Colman have erected a handsome Gothic school-room for the children of their workpeople; this

schoolroom is used also as a Sunday-school, and for public worship on Sunday evenings, while on week evenings it is used as a reading-room by the workpeople. From an old tower, called "the Snuff-tower," one obtains a birds-eye view of the works, which look like a small town intersected with various streets and lanes, the most conspicuous objects being three tall and handsome chimney shafts, which are seen for many miles round.

We give notes of one or two interesting discussions at the meetings of the association.

DARWINIANISM.

In the Biological Section a paper was read by the Rev. F. O. Morris on "The Difficulties of Darwinianism," which provoked some discussion. Dr. GRIERSON complained that newspapers and other popular periodicals never presented a correct statement of the Darwinian theory, but invariably caricatured it. The Rev. H. B. TRISTRAM said that Mr. Darwin's theory only related to the form of life, not to the principle of life, still less to the moral principle or the soul. It had nothing to do with *psyché* or *pneuma*, and he was sorry to find persons of his own cloth introducing such considerations into the discussion of the subject. It was not a question, as Mr. Morris had put it, whether the Creator had anything to do, but simply referred to the *mode* in which he acted. (Applause.) A man ought not to be set down as a theological bigot simply because he rejected Mr. Darwin's conclusions; nor should a clergyman be blamed for joining in an investigation of facts relating to the modes in which the various forms of existence originated. Mr. J. HARRISON asked if it was true that Mr. Darwin's theory was that everything could be traced to a single germ. Dr. GRIERSON said that he had no right to fasten such an inference on Mr. Darwin, though it might be inferred that everything came from a single monad. Mr. HARRISON said that the result was that God Almighty made only one thing at creation. Professor ROLLESTON said he agreed with the principle laid down by Archbishop Whately, who said that if he ever founded a sect, one of its rules should be that no man should ever attempt to prove any proposition in natural science by appealing to the Word of God. Natural science people should be left to work out their own conclusions. If they fell into errors there were plenty of their own brethren ready enough to set them right. If a thing was true, it was true all round, and there was no truth to which it would be contradictory. No doubt if any theory led logically to a conclusion known to be false, the premises must also be false. But it did not appear to him that Mr. Darwin's conclusions were false.

PROFESSOR HUXLEY'S LECTURE.

A crowded audience assembled on Thursday evening at the Drill Hall, to hear a lecture by Professor Huxley "On a Piece of Chalk." The lecture had been announced to be delivered to working men, and a large proportion of the audience consisted of members of that class. Dr. Hooker presided. The report of the lecture occupies four columns of the *Norfolk News*. The latter part of it referred to the antiquity of the globe. The antiquity of the chalk period, was he said, "enormous." He concluded:—

I have brought forward evidence—and let me assure you that this evidence is a fragment of that which it would be possible to bring forward—to prove the antiquity of the chalk, to prove that at the time at which it existed the physical geography of the world was perfectly different from what it is now, to prove that in the enormous period which has elapsed since that time that most prodigious changes have taken place even in corner of England. And let me ask you to believe that these few changes in Cromer cliffs are but as an infinitesimal fragment of the changes that have taken place since the chalk of which we have evidence. And now let me ask you to take from me a further fact, that the chalk was preceded by changes vastly greater, and by a duration of time incomparably longer than that which is represented by the physical changes which have taken place since. If it were possible for us to be transported into the midst of that time which is represented by the rocks that were deposited before the chalk, we should have much the same feeling as that of the man who is suddenly transported to Australia. If you were suddenly taken to some of the unsettled parts of Australia, you would see a similar conformation of land and sea to that which exists here, but the plants and trees and animals would look different to you; you would miss a great many that were familiar to you, and see a great many which were not familiar. The great groups, however, would be the same. So, if I could take you back to the earliest of those rocks which preceded chalk, to the times commonly known as the Trias, you would see the same groups of animals as we have now—mammals, birds, reptiles, fishes, insects; but not one of them would be like the creatures you see now about you. There is a wonderful contrast between the animals that live now and the animals which lived then. The great groups exist, but the animals differ in their character. And the importance of the chalk is that it, as it were, binds together the old past with the comparatively recent time. In the chalk you find side by side animals which are characteristic of almost the remotest antiquity, and those with which we are now familiar. You have in the chalk great swimming lizards, great flying lizards, which are characteristic of the older periods of the world's history; and side by side with them not only a great variety of creatures like those which now live, but one or two which are positively not distinguishable. Now, having before you the antiquity of the chalk let me ask you to ponder upon this fact. We Englishmen are very proud if we can trace our ancestry back to the battle of Hastings. But we have here a little shell whose ancestors might have witnessed a battle of ichthyosaurs in the sea over the country where Hastings now stands, and that puts all our escutcheons entirely to shame. I have hitherto confined myself entirely to what I believe are indisputable and unquestionable facts. But the human mind is so constituted that it cannot rest in such facts; it must always

search for the why and the wherefore, and in doing so it must necessarily plunge into the regions of speculation, which, properly employed, is the high point from which we can discern the region of fact with a clearer eye. It is impossible for you to have such facts as these brought before you, to realise this marvellous change from land to sea and from sea to land again and again through the lapse of immeasurable time, to think of this origination of all the different groups of animals at the beginning and of their slow and gradual change and substitution of one form for another—it is impossible for you to bring those facts clearly to your minds and not to ask the why and the wherefore. The why and the wherefore of the change from land to sea is simply explained. It is that the earth's crust is not the stable thing you take it to be, but that it is in a constant state of slow gradual change, some parts rising and some parts falling. Those which rise and remain are such as constitute the dry land; those which sink are such as constitute the bottom of the sea. So that the cause of these changes of land and sea is the shifting of the level of the earth's crust; if you ask me what is the cause of that, I reply frankly I do not know, and I am not sure that anybody else does. (Laughter.) But this I can tell you, that you have no reason to suppose that this series of changes from land to sea, and from sea to land, continued through immeasurable ages, is anything more than what for want of a better name, although that is a bad one, we commonly call a natural process. And my reason for saying so is this, that at the present day we have proof that in various parts of the world similar alterations of the level of the crust are going on. At this time the land of Greenland is being depressed gradually below the level of the sea, and certain parts of Sweden are gradually being raised, and you need no more than a continuation of these same processes going on in a slow manner, appreciable only to the quick eye of science, to account for all those variations of land and sea which I have pointed out to you; so that there is no justification, no shadow of ground for believing that all these changes which have taken place through immeasurable ages have been the result of the operation of anything else but that which we commonly call natural causes, and there is no reason for believing that those changes in organic life which have accompanied the changes of land and sea, have been other than the result of natural causes. Let me put the case to you clearly. You know very well what crocodiles are. They are four-legged creatures with great teeth. They live at the present day in the hotter parts of the world. They are very ancient animals. We find the remains of their bones all through the series of rocks since the chalk, and before the chalk as far as what is called the beginning of the secondary period. The lapse of time which this represents is something prodigious and incalculable. Now these most ancient crocodiles differ from those which exist in the present day in particulars which most of you would not notice, in the structure of the joints of the backbone and the position of the nostrils; but they do not differ from existing crocodiles more than existing crocodiles differ from one another. Yet not one of those ancient crocodiles is absolutely identical with those which live now; it is not the same species. Now, how are you to account for these facts? Either you must assume that these crocodiles proceeded by the operation of natural causes working upon some primitive stock of crocodiles, and thus, as we say, evolving one out of another; or you must assume that some power outside what we commonly call Nature made at separate intervals, at different periods of the immeasurable lapse of time I have indicated, a separate and distinct form of crocodile, totally independent of all the rest. Those are your two possible alternatives. Choose you either. I have chosen my alternative, which is that these several species have been developed by the operation of natural causes and of our primitive stock. And what I want to point out to you is this, that while it is perfectly open to you, if you like, to choose the other hypothesis, you must not suppose for one moment that it is more in accordance with the view which is more commonly received than any other. We have no authority in tradition or any authority for assuming that separate species of crocodiles were created at distinct and separate intervals through a period extending over millions of years. I have now reached the end of my task. If I were to take a bit of chalk and put it into the dull and obscure flame of burning hydrogen, it would, after a while, be converted into a substance which would shine like the sun, and which would illuminate on all sides, if these walls were not about us, the darkness of the night without. I have been endeavouring to turn upon this bit of chalk the heat of by no means a particularly brilliant course of reasoning, and by degrees I hope, you helping me, that this bit of chalk has in an intellectual sense begun to shine, that it has lighted up the remote vista of the past history of the world, that it has enabled you to get some sort of glimpse into that marvellous and astonishing history of the planet which we men of science are trying patiently and quietly to unravel. And the most important conclusion of all is that wherever its rays have shone it has revealed to you, always working without haste and without rest, Natural Causation.

THE REPORT ON THE MARRIAGE LAWS.

(From the *London Review*.)

The recently published report of the Royal Commission on the Law of Marriage, in its description of the various ways in which marriages may be celebrated in this country, tells us little that we have not heard from time to time through the means of more than one celebrated trial, but its collection of the confused mass of regulations which affect the subject presents a picture which is undoubtedly appalling. People who look upon matrimony as a thing of the past to be deplored, or a possibility in the future to be avoided, regard the tie in its completed aspect only, and pay little attention to the means by which it is effected. A perusal of the report will satisfy the hesitating bachelor, as well as the sorrowing husband, how various are the ways in which their single-blessedness may be destroyed, and their ruin effected. In England the road to matrimony is fairly direct. The bachelor who is bold enough to change his condition has two courses open to him. If he wishes to be married in the

Established Church, he has only to see that the banns are duly published, or a common licence obtained. Should he be in very great haste, and desirous in his hurry to rush through the usual restrictions as to residence and the celebration of the ceremony between the prescribed hours, he may obtain from the Archbishop of Canterbury a special licence, which requires no fixed period of residence, and authorises marriage at any hour of the day or night. If he has no particular fancy for either banns or licences, common or special, and can bring about a corresponding feeling of indifference on the part of the lady, the registrar of the district will tie the knot quite as effectually as the parson, or he will grant a certificate which will enable the parties to be married in any church or chapel within his district.

In Ireland the favour which has been accorded to the Protestant Established Church accounts for the disgraceful condition in which the marriage law of that country was formerly placed, and for the eminently unsatisfactory state in which it is now. By an Irish statute of the reign of George II. it was made a capital felony in a Roman Catholic priest to celebrate a marriage between two Protestants or between a Papist and "any person who hath been or hath professed him or herself to be a Protestant at any time within twelve months before such celebration of marriage"; and by another Act the marriage itself was declared to be absolutely null and void. This law has been but slightly changed. The priest celebrating a mixed marriage is, it is true, no longer in danger of being hanged for the offence, but he still continues liable to heavy penalties, and the marriage remains utterly void. When the parties are of the same religion, marriage can be celebrated in Ireland as easily as anywhere else. When two Roman Catholics desire to enter the holy state, all that is required is the presence of a clergyman of the Roman Catholic Church; it is unimportant when the marriage is celebrated,—it may be public or private, at any time and place the parties desire, and no licence, notice, residence, consent, or previous publication of banns is required. In the case of Irish Presbyterians the marriage must be preceded by a publication of banns during Divine service for three successive Sundays in the certified meeting-house of the congregation, or by a licence which closely resembles that of the Established Church, and the ceremony itself must be solemnised in the certified meeting-house and by a Presbyterian minister, with open doors, between the hours of eight a.m. and two p.m. Marriages may also be effected in Ireland through the district registrar in the same way as in England, and marriages in the Established Church of one country can scarcely be said to differ in any material respect from those of the other. The English and Irish marriage laws, however, may be described as admirable and systematic codes when placed by the side of the state of things which we find in Scotland. The present report really confirms the frequently repeated statement that it is almost impossible to say who are and who are not married in Scotland. If the Irish marriage law has suffered from the interference of the Legislature, that of Scotland may be said to have fallen into its present condition mainly because the law-makers have had little or nothing to do with it. Lord Brongham's Act for the Suppression of Gretna Green as a marrying place may be left out of the question, as its object was not to interfere with the Scotch, but to prevent English couples, who suffered from immature years or the authority of provident guardians from availing themselves of the privileges which at best are only suited to the wisdom and foresight which distinguish northern populations. The constitution of marriage in Scotland may, then, be said to depend, not upon any statutory conditions, but upon the ancient Canon Law, the leading principle of which was that consent made marriage. Now this principle, however admirable it may be for its simplicity, is scarcely suited to the present day. It has been altered in the Roman Catholic Church by the decrees of the Council of Trent, and superseded in every other part of European Christendom except Scotland by civil legislation. In Scotland alone it flourishes in all its simplicity. According to a recent judgment of Lord Deas, an eminent Scotch judge—"No form or ceremony civil or religious—no notice before or publication after—no consummation or cohabitation—no writing—no witnesses even are essential to the constitution of this the most important contract which two private parties can enter into, whether as affecting their domestic arrangements or the pecuniary interests of themselves or their families. Matrimonial consent may be verbally and effectually interchanged when no third party is present, and if it can be proved, even at the distance of years, by subsequent written acknowledgments, or oath of reference, or in any other competent way, that such consent was seriously and deliberately given, the parties will be held to have been married from that time forward, whether they have cohabited in the interval or not." With this principle as their foundation, the Scotch lawyers recognised three distinct modes of constituting marriage—one called "regular," and two "irregular." The regular marriage differs little from the ordinary marriage of the Established Church of England or Ireland. It must be preceded by banns and by a prescribed term of residence; but it differs from the English marriage in this, that it may be celebrated in a private house, and that the only effect which non-compliance with any of the legal conditions has is to make the marriage an irregular instead of a regular one. Of the irregular marriage there are two kinds: *per verba de presenti*, and *per verba de futuro subsequente copula*. To give validity to the former of these, it is only necessary that there should be an interchange of consent, and this, as the commissioners point out, may be given "openly before a justice

of the peace or a civil registrar, or in the most private manner between the parties themselves, with or without witnesses, and with or without any subsequent open acknowledgment or matrimonial cohabitation." The effects of this law will find their best illustration in the case of "Dalrymple," in which Lord Stowell decided that when writings had been secretly exchanged between a lady and gentleman in Scotland without the knowledge of any other person, they were held to constitute a valid marriage, and to annul and render bigamous a marriage celebrated in the usual way four years afterwards in England between the same gentleman and another lady; and this, although the parties to the interchange of writings in Scotland had kept the nature of their relation to each other from the knowledge of their families and of the world, and had never lived together as husband and wife. To give validity to the other form of irregular marriage in Scotland, the promise of future marriage, which is followed by the parties living together, must be in writing, or their relationship will be mere concubinage, as it would in England or Ireland. This concubinage, which results from the merely verbal promise, may, however, be easily converted into a legal marriage, if the promise be confessed upon oath, as it very frequently is. The mere enumeration of the Scotch modes of marriage is enough, without any advocacy, to condemn them as disgraceful to any state of civilisation, and leaves but one feeling, that of surprise, that such a state of things should have been tolerated so long as it has been. It would, however, be short-sighted policy to attempt any emendation of the Scotch marriage law by itself without making an effort to place the marriage law of the three kingdoms upon one basis. This the commissioners propose to effect by having marriage recognised as a merely civil contract, which the parties may accompany by any religious ceremony they please. With the view of meeting the general prejudice which seems to exist against disconnecting the religious ceremony from marriage, the commissioners suggest that a duly authorised official celebrant or witness should be present at every marriage, that no other mode constituting marriage should be recognised by law, and that all ministers of religion, in the active exercise of official duties in their churches or denominations, should be appointed the official witnesses or celebrants of the marriage. Until the report of the commissioners shall have attained a wider circulation and discussion than it has yet received, it is impossible to say what difficulties these suggestions may meet with from the clergy, and especially from those of the Roman Catholic Church, in consequence of their unwillingness to assume the position of officials; but that some change must be effected is obvious, and the recommendation of the commissioners has at least this much in its favour, that it is a compromise.

WELSH LANDLORDISM.

(From the *Morning Star*.)

Welsh landlordism, its claims and its rights, gave us lately a subject for remark. We are impelled to return to the question again, if only for the sake of drawing a little public attention to an exposition, apparently authentic and authoritative, of the theory or creed of landlordism, which has just appeared in a Welsh newspaper. This letter is a very curious and instructive document. Its great beauty, to our thinking, is the thorough sincerity and honesty with which it appears to be written. The writer is evidently one who is literally saturated with the belief in the landlord-right he advocates. It is therefore as valuable an illustration of the state of things it describes as one of the Paston letters, or one of Mr. Pepys' reflections on something passing under his own eyes. We have not read anything of the kind which better helps one to get at the writer's point of view, and we doubt whether the most penetrating and comprehensive analysis of the subject by Mr. Henry Richard or anybody else could enable us to understand so thoroughly the nature of the claims made, and the position asserted by Welsh landlordism, as this letter, signed "An Elector," and published in the *Welshman* newspaper.

The letter takes the form of a sort of exhortation, half argument, half menace, addressed to Welsh tenants. The writer claims—or we should rather say assumes as a basis not to be disputed—that the paramount duty of the tenant is to please his landlord in politics and in religion. This taken for granted, the writer proceeds to point out to Welsh tenant-farmers their duty at the coming election. They are especially warned against "the political Dissenting teacher," because such a teacher may lead them astray from their duty to their landlord. "A tenant who cares more for the feelings of others than those of his landlord is not worthy of his landlord." If the tenants will follow Dissenting politicians, "let them not deceive themselves that their landlords will be indifferent to their action." The one grand thing is to consult the landlord's feelings. A man gets a vote apparently that he may present it as tribute to his landlord. If in the coming political struggle he gives his vote to men who advocate the disendowment of the Irish Church, he thereby commits the sin and ingratitude of displeasing his landlord, who is placed in a position of considerably more authority than even a dutiful Chinese son accords to his father. Foreseeing a possible objection to this theory from some reckless and irreverent Radical, "An Elector" condescends to give some very practical reasons to justify the advice he offers. It may be said, he observes, that "if the tenant pays his rent, what more does his landlord want?" Well, it may be said. There are some people even in Wales who think the question pertinent. "If he pays what is due, what more is required?" Our "Elector"

does not stoop to argue the question, but he gives one or two very significant hints to tenants who are at all confused on the subject. "There is," he severely declares, "something required between tenant and landlord more than mere payment of rent. It would be very easy for landlords to obtain tenants to pay their rents and also join in their views on political matters." That hint is pretty clear. If the present occupiers choose to have political views of their own, they must expect that the landlords will turn them out and get in tenants who have no such vexatious notions of individual right. What follows is even clearer and stronger:—"If tenants who profess Dissenting principles, and who have perhaps been elevated to the office of deacons in the chapel, suppose they have a better friend as to their temporal matters in the Dissenting minister than in their landlord, I say let them follow him; but when the time arrives for the landlord to look out for tenants who may show more interest in his welfare than merely the payment of their rents, let them not blame any but themselves for the change. The Dissenting minister at this time can administer no relief." No, indeed. He cannot protect the wretched tenant from the vengeance of a landlord inflated with a mediæval faith in his own Divine Right. "The landlord may be driven to decline to accept any tenant except he be of the Church of England persuasion. Such tenant-farmers can be easily got; therefore I say let tenant-farmers at the approaching election weigh well whose voice to which they will listen, for to one or the other listen they will, whether to the voice of their landlords or to the levellers and the demagogues."

So on throughout the letter. It never once, even for a moment, seems to have flashed upon the mind of the "Elector" that the Welsh tenant has a soul which he ought to be able to call his own; that he has a right to his own political views; that he is supposed to be one of a nation of free men; that the Constitution gives him a vote to be used independently and honestly according to his lights. The "Elector" does not argue against these theories, for they never seem to have presented themselves to his consideration. He simply regards the tenant voting in opposition to his landlord's wishes as he would regard the horse which refused to let his owner mount him, or the dog which would not come at his master's call. The disobedient brute must be whipped—the refractory tenant must be punished. The landlord owns the tenant and the tenant's vote. Let the prudent tenant take care how he brings down upon himself the just wrath of his master. In his hour of punishment let him remember that the Dissenting minister cannot protect him. On this theory it seems an absurdity as well as a cruelty to give votes to these poor tenants at all. Cannot the landlord have a number of votes in proportion to the number of his tenants, on something like the principle which made the living chattels of the Southern planters count for so much among the claims of the latter to political representation? There is an anecdote of a Highland woman of old days, whose husband was about to be hanged for some offence he had never committed, and who, when the doomed man began to grumble at the gallows-feet, admonished him to go up quietly and be hanged, and "no to vex ta Chief." The "Elector" who writes to the *Welshman* has apparently quite as great a horror of vexing the Chief. Independence, conscience, patriotism, manhood, are of no consideration. Don't vex the Chief—that's all. At all events, if you will cross him, don't think to escape unpunished, and don't grumble at your just castigation. Such is the theory of Welsh landlordism. We commend it to all who are not yet convinced of the vital necessity of the ballot.

In reference to the same subject Mr. Henry Richard writes to the *Daily News* :—

The spirit which that letter betrays, though it may not always be expressed with such open insolence, is the spirit which generally prevails among the Tory landlords in the Principality; and I have no doubt that unless the English Liberal press comes to the rescue, many gross acts of oppression will be practised at this as at former elections on Welsh farmers and working men by these petty despots, who calculate on being shielded from observation by the fact that their victims for the most part speak and write in a language different from the rest of their fellow-subjects in the United Kingdom. The pretension of these few bigoted Church landlords absolutely to control the consciences of the people in political matters is all the more intolerable, as the Welsh may be almost described as a nation of Nonconformists. On this point I can adduce what all will admit to be most unexceptionable testimony. At a clerical meeting held within a few days in the city of Bangor, a clergyman, the Rev. P. C. Ellis, of Llanfairfechan, made the following remarks, as reported in the *North Wales Chronicle*, a Tory journal. "He believed if the Church of Ireland were disestablished, it would be a just judgment upon the clergy of that Church for its shortcomings; and he was convinced that investigation would show that the clergy of the Church in this country had fallen as far short of their duty as their brethren in Ireland. He trembled to think what the report of the state of the Church in Wales would disclose, as he believed its position was worse than that of the Church in Ireland. He had it on the authority of a gentleman in that room that the Church in Wales could not claim more than about 7 per cent. of the population, whereas the proportion of Churchmen in Ireland was 13 per cent. If the Church in Ireland was to be disestablished because she had one only in five and a half of the population, what, he asked, was to become of the Church in Wales, which could claim only one in 15? If the Church in Ireland were to go down, the Church in Wales must surely follow." This honest confession is true, but it is only half the truth; for it is not in numbers merely that Nonconformists so enormously preponderate over Churchmen in Wales. Wales

owes everything to her Nonconformity. Without it her people would have been ignorant, superstitious, turbulent, depraved, as they were while left to the tender mercies of their Church guardians, instead of being what they are now; as intelligent, orderly, and religious a community as is to be found in any part of her Majesty's dominions. What more honourable tribute has ever been paid to the inhabitants of any country than that lately paid to the Welsh by Lord Chief Justice Bovill, who, after presiding at the assizes in several countries of North Wales, said, in addressing the grand jury in Anglesea (I think) that there really was scarcely any necessity for her Majesty's judges to visit Wales at all, so few and so utterly insignificant were the criminal cases that came before them on trial. And yet these are the people whom the Tory landlords are never weary of worrying and bullying, because their religious and political views differ from theirs. These gentlemen might know, and in fact do know perfectly, that to the Dissenting chapels and Sunday-schools which cover the land they owe that enlightening and civilising influence on the mind and character of the people which confers such absolute security on their own persons and possessions, and adds incalculably even to the mere pecuniary value of estates. And yet, after every show of independence on the part of their Dissenting tenants at elections they are expelled from their holdings without mercy, or, if not expelled, are incessantly annoyed with reproaches and menaces. In anticipation of such petty persecutions in reference to the coming election, a proposal has been made in some of the Welsh newspapers to raise a guarantee fund of 10,000*l.*, as some security to men voting according to their consciences, that they will not be abandoned to absolute ruin.

THE GREAT RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

The inquest on the remains of the thirty-three persons who were killed in the dreadful railway collision between the Irish express and some waggons of a goods train on Thursday week, was resumed on Wednesday before Mr. Pierce, the coroner, and his assessor, and the Government inspector, and continued on the two succeeding days. On Friday the inquiry was adjourned to yesterday. Some time was consumed in the work of identification and in taking the formal evidence.

Mr. C. Ferguson, an Irish barrister staying at Pensarn, was the first witness called. He saw the accident from the beach. The collision took place just as the engine was disappearing in the cutting. An immense volume of black smoke and flame rushed up one hundred feet into the air. Upon seeing this, he looked through his glass and saw that the train was on fire. He ran to the station-master at Pensarn and informed him what he had seen. The station-master stopped an approaching train, and went to the spot on the engine. Witness himself went there in about twenty minutes. All the carriages were by that time completely burnt to ashes, except the post-office van, the flooring of which was not quite destroyed. Thomas Evans, a Welsh labourer, working in a siding near Llandulas, gave evidence relative to the shunting. He saw no break on the waggons sent from the siding. It was a common practice to leave goods trucks on the main line while the shunting was going on. He did not know whether the siding is always long enough for the goods train. One of the breaksmen was close to the trucks when they began to move. Mrs. Dickens, wife of a platelayer, told an extraordinary story. She lives close to the spot of the accident, and watched the mail train pass her. She was on the spot of the collision a few moments after it happened, and is certain that she spoke to a lady in the front carriages—afterwards burned—and asked her to get out, but that the lady refused; and she then went to the next carriage, where there was another lady with a child; that she urged the lady to throw the child out to her, and that she refused, lest it should be killed; that the passengers in the burned carriages could have got out of them if they had attempted to do so, but that no such attempt had been made. This evidence was declared by the counsel for the company to be incredible; and he requested the coroner to summon Lord Hamilton and others of the uninjured passengers to contradict it. The coroner promised to do this.

On Friday Mr. Roberts, a mason, who lives near Llandulas, said that he saw the truck running down the incline, and endeavoured to run on to the line in order to get into them, but he had not time. He saw the smoke and flames after the collision. He ran to the spot, a distance of about one-quarter of a mile. When he got there, he could not pass the fire, but had to go round, and when he got there, the passenger carriages next to the front van were catching fire. Mr. Townsend, a passenger, deposed that, at the time of the collision, he heard no explosion, nothing but a low rumbling grating sound. No cry or scream came from any of the carriages. After rendering what assistance he could, he went back to join the ladies of his party. A train came up and took them back to Abergele. When they left they had not the slightest idea that a single life had been lost. Miss S. A. Houghton, a young lady staying in the neighbourhood, was in a field near the line at the time of the accident. She ran to the spot, having seen the engine and tender thrown over. The first carriage was burning. She saw Mrs. Dickens imploring passengers in the first part of the train to come out. This witness saw her distinctly in the permanent way, and in front of the post-office van. The body of the engine was not on fire. The flames were blown past it by the wind. Alfred Sarah (the driver of the goods train) proved that the train picked up the paraffin trucks near Chester. The train consisted of forty-seven trucks when it reached Abergele, at five or six minutes past twelve o'clock,

and left in two or three minutes for Llandulas. He was always ordered to shunt at Llandulas for the Irish mail, unless he had not time, and then to shunt at Abergele or Rybal. At Llandulas he left the tail of the train—the break van and the paraffin trucks—on the main line, because the siding was not long enough for all the train. Shunted part of the train, and backed three trucks to the stationary part. Soon afterwards he saw them moving down the incline. This was at about 12.35. The Irish mail was due, he believed, at 12.38. He started his engine to catch the runaway waggons, but was stopped by the guard of the break van.

The names of Miss Roe and Mr. Lovatt Ferrall bring the list of the killed up to thirty-three, which corresponds with the number stated by the three surgeons as that of which there were portions of remains when they made their report. No further remains have since been discovered. There is to be a monument and inscription over the grave in which the deceased were interred. The London and North-Western Railway Company have offered to bear the expense of railing in the grave and erecting a suitable monument. Several relatives of the deceased, however, have expressed a desire that the monument should be erected by themselves. At the court-house of Abergele last Wednesday, the remnants of the jewellery and articles picked out of the burned carriages were placed on tables in the court-house for identification. It was a most extraordinary and miscellaneous collection, and the sight was about as painful and suggestive a one as ever was witnessed by any one. Half-burnt remnants of ladies' clothing, silk veils, collars, cuffs, pieces of rugs, steel handles of ladies' reticules—all that was left of them, scissors in abundance, penknives, spectacle-frames, buckles, clasps, bundles of keys, opera glasses, besides a variety of things to be more particularly mentioned, told the whole tale anew with fearful eloquence. There were also charred fragments of prints, tracts of the Religious Tract Society, and half-burned portions of a Church psalter or hymnal, containing letterpress and music. Lady Farnham's jewels were identified beyond a doubt. Many other articles were also identified by friends of the deceased. A number of gold and silver watches were so much injured as to furnish no mark of identification as far as could be learnt, but a very curious circumstance connected with three or four of them was that the hands had apparently stopped at the same time, viz., twenty minutes to one.

Lord Castlereagh writes a letter commenting upon an expression of opinion from another eye-witness of the accident, who said everyone might have escaped if the doors had not been locked. The noble viscount then proceeds :—

I was one of the first to jump out; indeed, I did so before the shock of the collision was over, yet in that moment of time the three first passenger carriages were wrapped in a flame of fire, which, in fact, swept through them, and rendered any approach to them impossible. No human power could possibly have saved any of the unfortunate sufferers. I do think, therefore, in the face of such an awful calamity, individuals should religiously abstain from writing sensational letters, only calculated to harrow the feelings of those who are now, alas! mourning the loss, under such awful circumstances, of relatives and friends. The writer who was on the ground ten minutes after the accident might just as well, for any knowledge he could have of the possibility of the escape of any passengers who perished, have come ten days later. But what chiefly induces me to trouble you is the following paragraph, in the same letter :—"Lord Castlereagh's governor, as she was coming up the bank, heard a lady say, 'For God's sake, let us out' before the fire came to her. What happened was this—My children's governess heard a gentleman ask the guard for a key to open the door of one of the London carriages, which were never touched by the flames. I do not say this with the view of relieving the company from any responsibility they may have incurred, as I have sufficient ground for knowing that some of the London carriages were locked on both sides."

It is usual for the persons who alter their name to change it from an eccentric to one of more elegant nature; but a gentleman has announced that in future he will not be known by the name of Turner but by that of Bravo.

CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS.—On Friday evening, August 28th, a meeting was held at the offices of the Agricultural and Horticultural Association, 29, Parliament-street, Westminster, to determine the time and place for holding a congress of the representatives of co-operative societies, partnerships of industry, trade unions, &c. E. Vansittart Neale, Esq., presided, and F. Buckland, Esq., E. O. Greening, Esq., G. J. Holyoake, Esq., W. Swindlehurst, J. Hole, Esq., and delegates from the principal metropolitan societies, as well as a few from the North, took part in the discussion. After some conversation it was resolved that the meeting shall take place in London, in the early part of February, 1869. Resolutions were passed to the effect that invitations be issued to co-operative societies, at home and abroad, and the friends of the movement generally, and a list of questions for discussion by the congress was drawn up, of which notice will be given hereafter. The meeting then resolved itself into a general committee, with power to add to its number, and a working sub-committee was formed, consisting of E. Vansittart Neale, Esq., E. O. Greening, Esq., W. Swindlehurst, Esq., G. J. Holyoake, Esq., J. J. Merri-man, Esq., F. Buckland, Esq., J. Hole, Esq., and Messrs. J. Cherry and M. Davis, the hon. secretaries, to whom all suggestions may be forwarded, at the above address. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

Literature.

FREEMAN'S NORMAN CONQUEST.*

The second volume of Mr. Freeman's great work abundantly confirms the opinion which we have previously expressed that it must become the standard book on the period of our history which it covers. It is not only that the writer has been extremely diligent in his collation of the original authorities, but what is of even greater importance, that he has shown himself to possess, in a rare degree, a power of critical analysis and discrimination, the absence of which so often makes a good deal of careful research comparatively worthless. Every one who attempts to write history now-a-days is pretty sure to consult, or at least to make a show of consulting, any of the old chronicles or original records which may throw light upon his subject, but it is not every one that knows how to turn such study to advantage. Mr. Freeman, however, has made historical research the business of a lifetime, and has thus gained a mastery of his theme which is possible only to incessant toil directed by a clear and penetrating intellect. It is no easy thing, indeed, for an author to thread his way amid the confused and contradictory accounts of writers who were utterly destitute of the critical faculty and never sought to distinguish fact from legend, and who generally wrote under the influence of strong partisan feelings, which led them greedily to swallow every story which tended to the glorification of their friends or the dishonour of their enemies, even though the mark of improbability was stamped on its every feature. But Mr. Freeman has made himself so familiar with these old chronicles that he understands all their idiosyncrasies, and is thus able to form a sound judgment as to the value of their respective statements. Not the least instructive part of his work is his account of the several chroniclers—of the prejudices under which they wrote, of the general characteristics of their writings, of the way in which the assertions of one need to be checked by those of another, and of the process by which the honest inquirer has to work his way slowly and cautiously to a conclusion. Thus, in relation to the reign of Eadward the Confessor, with which the second volume is occupied, he points out how Florence of Worcester, rising from the position of a mere copyist to that of an historian, gradually acquires, as his narrative advances, higher authority: how the life of Eadward, by a contemporary, though he was "a biographer, sometimes a laureate," has yet special value in everything relating to Godwine and his family, especially because of its "vivid personal portraits of the great men of the time, with all of whom the writer seems to have been personally acquainted," and because of its giving us the English view of various transactions which have been misrepresented in the "dominant Norman calumnies," and how the Norman writers themselves, are not to be passed over unnoticed, though "their importance is of this peculiar kind that, after reading the English account of any fact, it is needful to turn and see what is the Norman perversion of it." With great care he distinguishes between primary and secondary writers, and not only so, but between different parts of the same narrative. His conclusions appear to us to be generally sound, and his book is therefore not only valuable for its own carefully prepared and well-told story, but also for the help it affords to anyone seeking to turn the original writers to wise practical use.

Mr. Freeman has now defined the exact extent of his work. By the time of Edward the First, the Norman settlers had become part of the English nation, the old distinctions had passed away, and conquerors and conquered had been fused into one people. At that point, therefore, his work will be done. The first volume of which we some time ago gave an introductory notice was preliminary; the three succeeding ones will be occupied with the body of the narrative which they will bring down to the death of William; the fifth and last will be supplementary, and devoted to a review of the results of the Conquest, including a brief sketch of the history and a general view of the influence exerted by the change on the Government, language, and general condition of England. The volume just issued records the reign of Eadward the Confessor, and traces the earlier steps in the course of Norman aggression. William and Harold already appear on the scene, though

neither of them is as yet the head of his party, and the causes are in operation whose result will be seen in the Conquest, of which the next volume is to tell the story. Among many admirable points in Mr. Freeman's book, few are more worthy of note than the absence of mere partisan feeling. The temptation to which many writers are exposed in describing such a struggle as that between William and Harold, is to make a hero of one or other of them, and to force the facts adapt themselves to their own ideal. Mr. Freeman has a strong admiration for both men, and seeks to do, indeed succeeds in doing justice to their respective merits. We are pleased to learn that the greater part of the next volume is already written, and sincerely trust that the author may carry his design to a successful completion. It is in portions of this character that we must expect to see the history of our country written. He would be a daring man who, with the modern notions of what history ought to be, and with the vast quantity of original documents which any writer who desires his book to live must consult, should undertake to write the story of the English people from Egberht, or even from William the Conqueror to Victoria; and though we shall have, as it is very desirable we should have, popular compendiums which will embody the best results of original works, the authors of books intended to become standard authorities, will undoubtedly content themselves with treating portions only of the great subject. It will be fortunate if other periods find narrators so thoroughly competent for their work as the historian of the Norman Conquest.

Reserving for a future article a sketch of the general history, as given by Mr. Freeman, we confine ourselves, at present, to the notice of one or two incidental points of great interest brought out in the volumes already published. There are many writers who follow the straight course of their story with great pains and accuracy, but who will not turn aside to gather up apparently insignificant facts which lie out of the beaten track, but which would give life and freshness to the story, and greatly enhance its value in the eyes of the general reader. Mr. Freeman has the wisdom to bring in everything of this character. Then he diverges from his course continually to give the story of those great ecclesiastical foundations which still excite our admiration, but of which so little is generally known. Thus in the first volumes, after telling the story of Brihtnoth, the famous Ealdorman of the East Saxons, and his gallant resistance to the Danish invaders in the reign of Æthelred, of the battle of Maldon, of the defence of the bridge by three noble English champions, the chivalrous Brihtnoth's refusal to assail the Danes in crossing the ford, his fall, and the recovery of his headless body after a fierce strife—altogether a graphic and stirring picture of heroic deeds—he goes on to relate the rise and early history of the monastery at Ely, of which the old chieftain was one of the principal benefactors, and in which his remains were interred.

"On an island in the great fen region, between Mercia and East Anglia, on an elevation which, in that part of the island passes for a considerable hill, the virgin queen Æthelthryth (the Ætheldreda of hagiology) had, three centuries before, forsaken every duty of royal and married life, to rule over a sisterhood which proved fruitful in saints of royal birth. Thus arose the great monastery of Ely; but, like many other religious houses, it was utterly destroyed in the great Danish invasion. When the monks were in the height of their power under Eadgar, Bishop Æthelwold, the chief patron, chose the forsaken site for a new foundation; a church was built, and a body of monks took possession of the former home of sainted princesses. Among the benefactors of the new house the pious Ealdorman of the East Saxons was one of the chief. The first abbot, whether from kindred or accident, bore the same name as his benefactor the Ealdorman. He, according to the legend, died a martyr's death, through the machinations of Queen Ælthryth, the unworthy niece of the pious chieftain. The second Abbot Ælfrige was connected with Brihtnoth by the tie of mutual benefits. He now hastened to the place of slaughter, and carried off the body of so great a benefactor of his house. The remains of Brihtnoth were buried in the newly hallowed minster, the humble predecessor of the most stately and varied of England's cathedral churches. Under its mighty lantern the brave and pious Ealdorman slept in peace, till, under pretence of restoration, his bones were disturbed by the savages of the eighteenth century. His widow Æthelfleda shared his devotion to the house of Saint Æthelthryth. She added to his gifts of land; she offered a bracelet, probably part of the insignia of his office; and she adorned the minster with one gift, which, if it survived, would rank among the precious monuments of the history and art of the age. Ely once could rival Bayeux; the industry and conjugal love of the widow of the East Saxon Ealdorman were no less famous than those of the wife of the Norman King. Among the choicest treasures of Ely under her first bishop, a hundred and twenty years later, was the elaborate tapestry on which the devotion of Æthelfleda had wrought the glorious deeds of the hero of Maldon."

Not less interesting is the account of the see of Durham. But few of the numbers who have admired the wisdom of those who secured for

the grand old minster, and the castle by which it is supported, the finest site of the neighbourhood, know anything of the history of the bishopric originally planted as the Bishopric of Bernicia, or Northern Northumberland, in the island of Lindisfarne. While still there it acquired special distinction from the eminent virtues of Saint Cuthberht whose story has been told by Montalembert in his own characteristic style in the "Monks of the West," but in the ninth century the Danish invaders expelled both bishop and monks from the island. The body of the saint was carried with them, and for a century found a resting place at Cunegaceaster, or Chester-le-Street, a small town about half-way between Newcastle and Durham. In 995 the reigning prelate Ealdhun wisely transferred it to the latter city, a translation (says Mr. Freeman) which "seems to be a forestalling of that general removal of bishoprics from smaller to more considerable towns, which we shall find carried out systematically soon after the Norman Conquest." The site chosen for the cathedral is one clearly marked out for dominion, and thus our author tells us the bishopric acquired a power which could never have been attained if the "hermit-island," where it was founded, continued to be its seat. As it was, the successors of the self-denying monk grew into the "Lords of a Palatinate, in which it was not the peace of the king, but the peace of the bishop, which the wrongdoer was, in legal language, held to have broken." Happily for our country, the privileges thus enjoyed by the Palatine Bishop of Durham and the Palatine Earl of Chester were not conferred upon other members of their respective orders, or it is improbable that England, divided into little principalities, could have become a real power in Europe.

The following sketch of London and its early fortunes, and the comparison between it and Paris, is graphic and instructive:—

"The storm was thus turned away from London. The importance of that great city was daily growing throughout these times. We cannot as yet call it the capital of the Kingdom; the very amount of its internal independence would make such a title inapplicable; but its geographical position made it one of the chief bulwarks of the land, and in no part of the realm do we find the inhabitants outdoing the patriotism and courage of its valiant citizens. London, at this time, fills much the same place in England which Paris filled in Norman Gaul a century earlier. The two cities, in their several lands, were the two great fortresses, placed on the two great rivers of the country, the special objects of attack on the part of the invaders and the special defence of the country against them. Each was, as it were, marked out by great public services to become the capital of the whole Kingdom. But Paris became so only because its local Count gradually grew into a national King. London amidst all changes within and without, has always preserved more or less of her ancient character as a free city. Paris was merely a military bulwark, the dwelling-place of a ducal or royal sovereign. London, no less important as a military post, had also a greatness which rested on a surer foundation, London, like a few other great cities, is one of the ties that connect our Teutonic England with the Celtic and Roman Britain of earlier times. Her British name still remains unchanged by the Teutonic conquerors. Before our first introduction to London as an English city, she had cast away her Roman and imperial title; she was no longer Augusta; she had again assumed her ancient name, and through all changes she had adhered to her ancient character. The commercial fame of London dates from the early days of Roman dominion. The English Conquest may have caused a temporary interruption, but it was only temporary. As early as the days of Æthelberht the commerce of London was again renowned. Ælfred has rescued the city from the Dane; he had built a citadel for her defence, the germ of that Tower which was to be first the dwelling-place of kings, and then the scene of the martyrdom of their victims."

CHAPMAN'S AFRICAN TRAVELS.*

Mr. Chapman's travels in the interior of Africa extend over a period of fifteen years. In the first instance engaged in mercantile pursuits at Natal, and subsequently appointed to the post of chief clerk in the diplomatic department, he found his work unsuited to his temperament, and in 1849 started for the Dutch settlements with the view of establishing himself there and embarking in some mercantile adventure. Finding this impracticable, owing to the determination of the Boers not to allow the encroachment of Englishmen upon their territory, he was led to form plans for an expedition into the interior, his chief objects being to hunt elephants and to obtain ivory.

The narratives of African travellers during recent years have supplied the reading public with details of elephant-hunting *ad nauseam*. Mr. Chapman has nothing very novel to say on this subject. One is prepared for hairbreadth escapes in such sports, and Mr. Chapman has certainly had his share of them. The first "bull" he shot had nearly made an end of him

* *Travels in the Interior of South Africa*. By JAMES CHAPMAN, F.R.G.S. (Bell and Daldy.)

* *The History of the Norman Conquest of England; its Causes and its Results*. By EDWARD A. FREEMAN. Volumes I. and II. The Reign of Edward the Confessor. Oxford: The Clarendon Press.

before the fatal shot was fired, and another adventure is thus described:—

"The troop, finding their prostrate fellow dead to their entreaties, moved on, and I soon followed, but was repeatedly driven back by a worthless old hag of a cow, who, with the air of a vixen, would not allow me to come near the troop; and I found it was necessary to kill her first, if I wished to get at the rest. So, dashing towards them, she turned upon me just as I had dismounted, uttering a fearful cry. This was a desperate move; it sealed her fate, though mine seemed in greater jeopardy, as my horse, terrified at the elephant's thrilling cry, pulled the reins out of my hand and left me on the open plain, staring death in the face without any cover to flee to. At this critical moment I despaired of life, but presence of mind, together with an unusual firmness, were now vouchsafed to me. I felt that I had but one chance for life, and that I held it in my hand. Now for courage and a steady shot. It was the courage of despair, and it was Providence that directed my aim. I awaited the furious animal's approach with my gun at my shoulder; but my hand shook so violently that I could take no sure aim, and I felt reluctant to pull the trigger. Still the enemy approached, with outstretched trunk; her loud trumpeting had ceased, but she uttered a series of short-fetched grunts, which sounded in my ears like exclamation of triumph at having her enemy in her power—a victim she would grasp in another moment with her powerful trunk, and crush to atoms with her ponderous feet. At this juncture she happened to lower her trunk from before her, and the slight movement leaving her forehead exposed, I instantly took advantage of it, and a bullet from my rifle crashed right into the centre of her skull, and she came down with overwhelming violence at the distance of seven paces from the spot where I was planted. But if before I had been sustained by Providence—and indeed I felt that something beyond my physical power had saved me—I now lost all my fortitude, and stood for a moment perfectly agast, trembling, and most horribly bewildered. But now, again recovering myself, and inspired by the first law of nature to lose no time in retreating from a possible death-struggle with my prostrate foe, I ran to my horse, standing at the distance of 200 yards, and cooking his ears in amazement at the fray: I then reloaded, and began to speculate on the doubtful prudence of following the rest of the troop."

It would be unfair to our intrepid traveller, however, to represent that his ambition was limited to a desire for the excitement of the chase. As he proceeded further on his travels, he conceived the design of establishing a line of commercial stations across Southern Africa from sea to sea. With the view of testing the feasibility of this enterprise, he sailed in 1860 from Table Bay for Walvisch Bay, in the Hottentots, about 800 miles north of the point of departure, whence he travelled across the continent to Sinamani's town on the Zambesi.

Mr. Chapman's manuscripts we are told were most voluminous, and his editors have confined their duties to the curtailment and reduction of them to the limits of two large octavo volumes; a very necessary operation, and one which when completed leaves a mine of wealth to the naturalist, the geologist, and the geographer.

Our own impression is that the work should have been still more condensed, even to the omission of many incidents of travel narrated in chronological order, but not so dissimilar to those detailed in the accounts of other African travellers as to call for enumeration. This, however, is, after all, a matter of taste, and what appears to us a blemish may prove to others an attractive feature. It is but justice to Mr. Chapman or to his editors to say that his narrative is free from that egotism and boastfulness which characterise the records of many travellers who have not dared or achieved the half of what he has done, and that he lays no claim to a homage and gratitude on the part of the public to which he might have aspired, if his motives had been other and higher than by his own account they were in the main—namely, a love of adventure. His account is honest, truthful, manly, and, at times, of thrilling interest.

In the course of his earlier travels he came frequently upon the track of the king of travellers—our brave Livingstone. Sechelli, the native chief whose conversion, it may be remembered, is recorded in Livingstone's "Travels," is thus described:—

"Sechelli, chief of the Bakwains, a tribe mustering about 500 men, stands about 5 ft. 10 in. high, has a pleasing countenance, and is rather stout. He was dressed in molekin trousers, a duffel jacket, a wide-awake hat, and military boots. In address and behaviour Sechelli is a perfect gentleman. He can read and write, having learnt within the last few years, and is an accepted member of the Kuruman Church. He was instructed by Dr. Livingstone, who lived with him for four or five years. Sechelli is said to be very quick at learning, and anxious to substitute more civilised customs among his tribe in the place of their own heathenish practices. He is also said to be good-natured and generous. He presented us with a fat ox for slaughter, a custom prevailing among all the tribes that can afford it.

"Sechelli at once pronounced us to be Englishmen; and having corroborated the intelligence we had already heard from Sekomi respecting his disasters, he apologised for not being able to receive us as he would like; but he entertained us with roast beef, sweet and sour milk, served in clean dishes, and with silver spoons, also with sweet earth-nuts; and while we were doing justice to his hospitality, a man stood fanning away the flies with a bunch of white ostrich feathers." And again, the appearance of Kolobeng is thus referred to:—

"Next day we travelled still south, and reached

Kolobeng in the forenoon. This is the site of the town where Dr. Livingstone lived with the tribe. His house had been pillaged, and presented a melancholy picture of wanton destruction. The Boers had taken away everything that was valuable to them in the shape of furniture, utensils, and implements, and destroyed some hundreds of volumes of Sechuana Testaments, and other religious works and tracts, the leaves of which still lay scattered for nearly a mile in every direction. Even the window and door-frames had been taken out, and the floor was strewn with bottles of valuable medicines, the use of which the Boers did not understand. The town where Sechelli was attacked, and which was burnt to the ground, a few miles from Kolobeng, presented a melancholy scene of desolation, bestrewn with the unburied carcases and bleaching bones of the natives who fell."

At Kuruman Mr. Chapman met Mr. Moffat, whose unwearied labours have raised up an oasis of civilisation and order in the midst of the surrounding heathenism, of which he (the author) gives the following sketch:—

"Next day I rode over to Kuruman, where I found my friend Mr. Thompson, who afterwards travelled in company with us. Here I was introduced to the worthy missionaries, Messrs. Moffat and Ashton, and their families, the memory of whose uniform kindness I shall ever cherish. Milk, new bread, and fresh butter, we were never in want of while near these good people, and of grapes, apples, peaches, and all other products of the garden, there was never any lack at our wagons. Everyone is struck with the beauty of Kuruman, although the site cannot boast of any natural charms. All we see is the result of well-directed labour. A street of about a quarter of a mile in length is lined on one side by the missionary gardens, enclosed with substantial walls, and teeming with fruit and vegetables of every description. A row of spreading willows are nourished by a fine watercourse, pouring a copious stream at their roots for nearly a mile, and beyond the gardens flows to the eastward the river Kuruman, between tall reeds, with flights of waterfowl splashing on its surface. The river issues a few miles south from a grotto said to be 100 yards long, and very spacious, the habitation of innumerable bats, owls, and serpents of a large size. Stalactites of various shapes and figures are to be found in this grotto. I have seen some beautiful specimens adorning mantelpieces. One party discovered in the roof of this grotto portions of a human skeleton perfectly petrified, and a part of which was broken off."

"On the opposite side of the street, and facing the row of gardens, the willows, and the stream, is a spacious chapel, calculated to hold more than 500 people. It is built of stone, with a missionary dwelling-house on either side of it, and a trader's dwelling-house and store at the Western end. All these, as well as the smaller but neat dwellings of the Bechuana, built in the European style, and in good taste, have shady soringa trees planted in the front. At the back of the missionary premises there are store and schoolrooms, workshops, &c., with a smithy in front. Behind the chapel is a printing-office, in which native compositors were setting type for the new editions of Mr. Moffat's Bible. Thousands of Sechuana books have been as well printed and as neatly bound in this establishment, under the superintendence of Mr. Ashton, as they could be in England. The natives here are the most enlightened and civilised I have seen, the greater portion wearing clothes, and being able to read and write. It was pleasant on Sunday to see them neatly and cleanly clad going to church three times a day. In their tillage they are also making rapid progress, and, having adopted European practices, instead of the hoe they use the plough."

We could fill column after column of our paper with interesting extracts from these volumes, but our space is not available, and we must therefore forbear, heartily commending the work to those of our readers who love stories of adventure and exploration.

NEW EDITIONS.

Life of George Stephenson, and of his Son, Robert Stephenson. A New Edition, revised and enlarged. By SAMUEL SMILES. (John Murray.) Mr. Smiles's "Lives of the Engineers" enjoy a circulation almost, if not wholly, unprecedented among works of a similar character. It was about four years ago that we noticed the appearance of this work in its eighth edition in the "popular" series of "Lives of the Engineers," and the present edition is in the form of the illustrated octavo edition which was published in 1857. "Since 'that time,'" as Dr. Smiles says, "the construction of 'railways has continued to make extraordinary progress.'" Recent decisions of metropolitan railway boards would almost justify the substitution of "destruction" for "construction," in one or two instances that might be named. A perusal of this volume might bring much-needed reflections to those railway directors and shareholders who only look at railway enterprises in their commercial aspect. If they get no further than the author's new and most instructive preface, which is an essay on railway progress and prospects, they may gather not a few useful hints to guide their future course; while those who read the book itself can hardly fail to contrast the great engineer's integrity of purpose and high commercial morality with that spirit of "railway mania" which still, to a large extent, presides in the councils of railway proprietors. Most truly does the author say, "What between the confused, contradictory, and often unjust legislation of Parliament on the one hand, and the carelessness or incompetency of the directors on the other, many once flourishing concerns 'have been thrown into a state of utter confusion and 'muddle, until railway government has become a by-word of reproach. And this state of things will probably continue until the fatal defect of government by boards—an extremely limited responsibility or no re-

sponsibility at all—has been rectified by the appointment, as in France, of executives consisting of a few 'men of special ability and trained administrative skill, personally responsible to their constituents for the 'due performance of their respective functions.'"

The Obscure Diseases of the Brain and Disorders of the Mind. By FORBES WINSLOW, M.D. Fourth edition, revised. (John Churchill and Sons.) Three large editions of this work have been sold since its first appearance in 1860. The object of Dr. Winslow is, as stated in his preface to the third edition, "to briefly, 'clearly, and free from all unnecessary technicalities of 'language, point out the more important salient and 'characteristic symptoms that usually precede and 'accompany serious and often fatal attacks of disease 'of the brain and disorder of the mind." This is such a book as everyone desiring to know something of the mysterious connection between mental conditions and the moral nature should read. Few practitioners, and fewer still otherwise intelligent and well-informed persons, have anything more than the most indistinct and often erroneous conception of the causes of bodily ailments, and alternating states of mental exaltation and depression. The subject receives from Dr. Winslow in this compact volume all the fullness of treatment that for the general reading public, it is desirable it should receive. We are quite sure that if it continues to gain a hold upon the wide class to which it appeals, the author may claim with even more confidence than he has done hitherto on its behalf, that by its means "mischievous maladies have been detected in the incipient 'stage and placed under arrest, whilst appropriate 'medical measures have been adopted for their mitigation and cure."

The Book of Genesis. In two vols. A New Edition, carefully revised by ROBERT S. CANDLISH, D.D. (A. and C. Black). This is a book for the edification of the heart rather than for the establishment of an unassailable belief in the authenticity of the Mosaic record. Whatever grounds there may be for accepting the "Mosaic Cosmogony" as the only true and reliable account of the creation of our world and the solar system, they are not stated here, nor is there so much as an attempt to state them. Dr. Candlish plainly owns that his plan "does not require me to enter at 'any length, if indeed at all, into the vexed questions 'which have clustered around the Mosaic cosmogony; 'questions as to the relations of science and revelations 'which I own myself incompetent to discuss." In this new and revised edition one wishes it could have been possible for the author to place himself more fairly abreast of the times, and to consider a little more in detail such recent discoveries in science as are really established and the probable results that will flow from them in the modification of ancient modes of interpretation. A little amplification on this point would, in our view, greatly enhance the value of the eloquent and soul-stirring passages that are so widely scattered over these volumes.

Jesus Christ; His Times, Life, and Work. By EDMOND DE PRESSENZER, D.D. Second edition, revised. (Hodder and Stoughton.) We expressed our high sense of the value of this book on its first appearance about three years ago. We hail with equal pleasure its re-issue now in a handsome volume.

LITERARY EXTRACTS.

DELETERIOUS PROPERTIES OF GAS COMBUSTION.—In the combustion of gas, because there is no visible smoke and little odour, we are apt to believe that no mischief can result from the burned air being allowed in the room. This is a dangerous misapprehension, for the products of combustion are water and carbonic acid, which last named is the same as the deadly invisible smoke of charcoal, and is what, when collected in mines, is called choke-damp. Moreover, illuminating gas contains many impurities. Mr. Valentin, of the Royal College of Chemistry, says that the purest samples afford as much as from twenty to thirty grains of sulphur for every one hundred cubic feet consumed. An ordinary fishtail jet may be said to burn, says *Once a Week*, five cubic feet an hour; from this, and an inspection of his gas bills, Paterfamilias may compute the quantity of brimstone that he diffuses through the atmosphere of his house in the course of a year. He will find, for instance, that a four-light gaselier, lighted during an average of two hours a night all the year round, will, in the course of the twelve months, yield about half a pound of sulphur, in the form of sulphuric and sulphurous acids, to vitiate the air he breathes and destroy his household goods. It is on account of this sulphur, which has the power of tarnishing silver, that silversmiths and jewellers are obliged to be cautious in the use of coal-gas. It also acts injuriously on metallic utensils in general, and on paintings containing any white-lead. A white paint having the qualities of white-lead, but which sulphuretted hydrogen would not blacken, is, we believe, a desideratum among artists.—*The Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine for September.*

THE INFLUENCE OF WIVES.—Men talk—and women listen and echo—about the overpowering loveliness and charm of a young mother surrounded by her blooming family, ministering to their wants and absorbed in their welfare, self-denying and self-forgetful; and she is lovely and charming; and if this is all, it is little more than the charm but loveliness of a picture. It is not magnetic and irresistible.

It has the semblance, but is not real life. It is pretty to look at, but it is not vigorous for command. Her husband will have a certain kind of admiration and love. Her wish will be law within a certain very limited sphere; but beyond that he will not take her into his counsels and confidence. A woman must make herself obvious to her husband, or he will drift out beyond her horizon. She will be to him very nearly what she wills to be. If she adapt herself to her children and does not adapt herself to her husband, he will fall into the arrangement, and the two will fall apart. I do not mean that they will quarrel, but they will lead separate lives. They will be no longer husband and wife. There will be a domestic alliance, but no marriage. A predominant interest in the same object binds them together after a fashion; but marriage is something beyond that. If a woman wishes and purposes to be the friend of her husband—if she would be valuable to him, not simply as the nurse of his children and the manager of his household, but as a woman fresh and fair and fascinating, to him intrinsically lovely and attractive, she should make an effort for it. It is not by any means a thing that comes of itself, or that can be left to itself. She must read, and observe, and think. Men, as a general thing, will not tell you so. They talk about having the slippers ready, and enjoin women to be domestic. But men are blockheads,—dear, and affectionate, and generous blockheads,—benevolent, large-hearted, and chivalrous,—kind, and patient, and hard-working,—but stupid where women are concerned. Indispensable and delightful as they are in real life, pleasant and comfortable as women actually find them, not one in ten thousand but makes a dunce of himself the moment he opens his mouth to theorise about women. The pretty things they inculcate—slippers, and coffee, and care, and courtesy—ought indeed to be done, but the others ought not to be left undone. And to the former women seldom need to be exhorted. They take to them naturally. A great many more women bore boorish husbands with fond little attentions, than wound appreciative ones with neglect. Women domesticate themselves to death already. What they want is cultivation. They need to be stimulated to develop a large, comprehensive life, in which their domestic duties shall have an appropriate niche, and not dwindle down to a narrow servile one, over which those duties shall spread and occupy the whole space.

—*The Treasury of Literature for September.*

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen returned to Lucerne from the Firk, near the St. Gothard Pass, on Tuesday evening, and on Thursday, accompanied by three of her children, ascended the Righi. It is semi-officially announced that her Majesty has been subjected to no annoyance of any kind during her stay in Switzerland, and that nothing has occurred to interfere with the excellent arrangements made for her comfort by the Federal and local authorities. The Queen is expected to arrive in England on the 11th of September, and proceed to Balmoral on the 26th.

There have been reports of a projected interview between Queen Victoria and the Queen of the Netherlands. It has therefore been thought necessary to announce that the latter has never left the neighbourhood of the Hague.

The accouchement of her Royal Highness Princess Christian may (says the *Post*) be expected at no very distant date.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Ismail Pasha, G.C.B., an Honorary Knight Commander of the Order of the Star of India.

Mr. Disraeli last week received two distinguished visitors at Hughenden—Lord Napier of Magdala and Mr. Reverdy Johnson, the newly-appointed United States Minister to this country. At Wycombe, Lord Napier was met by the Mayor and corporation, and made a public entry into the town.

It is announced that Parliament will be dissolved on the 9th of November. The elections for boroughs commence on the 13th, for the counties on the 16th. The general election will be completed before the end of the month, and the reformed House of Commons meet in the second week of December. "A few days," says the *Standard*, "will necessarily be occupied with the swearing-in of members, but the discussion upon the address will commence quite soon enough to allow formal expression to be given before Christmas to that decision of the country which the election returns will already have established beyond any doubt. The Government will bring the question between it and the Opposition to an issue at the earliest possible day."

It is reported that Colonel Taylor, M.P., will succeed the Earl of Mayo as Chief Secretary for Ireland.

The venerable Earl of Roden is again dangerously ill.

The *Irish Times* says:—"The contributions of the nobility and gentry to the Conservative Election Fund now nearly amount to a quarter of a million. Lord Portman has subscribed twenty thousand pounds." It is stated that the Duke of Rutland and the Duke of Portland have each contributed 2,000*l.* to the funds of the National Protestant Union in view of the coming election contests.

The *Sheffield Independent* says:—"The many friends of our venerable member will deeply sympathise with him in the bereavement which has befallen him by the death of Mrs. Hadfield, at a great age, and after prolonged affliction. It is much to be regretted that domestic sorrow should be added to political perplexities."

The Commissionership in Bankruptcy for the London district, vacant by the death of Mr. Serjeant Goulburn, has been accepted by Mr. Bacon, Q.C.

The *New York Picayune* states that Mr. Jefferson Davis has been induced to go to England upon the invitation of an eminent English commercial firm, which requires him to become a partner in its business, and that it is his intention to reside in New Orleans hereafter, to represent the interests of the firm in that city.

It is again reported that the Government intend shortly to recommend the creation of no less than twelve peers. "These honours will, it is believed, be conferred entirely upon the most influential supporters of the Conservative party since the period of Lord Derby's first accession to office, but will not include any at present holding office either in the Cabinet or out of it. The 'twelve' alluded to are expected to receive their coronets about the time of the dissolution."

Miscellaneous News.

THE HALF-HOLIDAY MOVEMENT.—The workpeople in the employ of Messrs. John Crossley and Sons (Limited), Halifax, a great proportion of whom are paid "by the piece," have decided, with the approval of their employers, by a majority of 2,971 to 664, to cease working at one p.m. on Saturday.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN BIRMINGHAM.—Five hundred and fifty-seven women ratepayers have sent in their claims to vote in the next election of members for the borough of Birmingham, viz., 133 from the parish of Edgbaston, 173 from the parish of Aston, and 251 from the parish of Birmingham. Eighteen ladies have also sent county claims for the northern division of Warwickshire.

THE RECENT LAND OUTRAGE IN IRELAND.—At a recent meeting of Tipperary magistrates a resolution was carried unanimously, in which the conduct of Mr. William Scully towards his tenantry at Ballycohey was condemned as tyrannical, in the strongest and most emphatic terms. There is no person now in custody charged with being concerned in the late outrage.

THE SOLAR ECLIPSE OF AUGUST 17.—The following telegram, addressed to the President of the Royal Society, has been received from Lieutenant J. Herschel, R.E., to whom the Royal Society had entrusted the carrying out of certain observations to be made during the eclipse:—"Frequent clouds, one flame caught, the bright lines seen, none of corona (none of corona?); polarisation solar.—Belgaum, August 20."

PRIZEFIGHTERS now get little consideration. There was to have been a contest on Monday between Goss, the present champion, and a man named Allen, living at Manchester. It was decided, however, to prevent the fight, and on Sunday Allen was arrested at Willesden, near London. On Monday he was brought up at the Bow-street Police-court, and ordered to find sureties to the amount of 800*l.* to keep the peace for twelve months.

A MUNIFICENT OFFER has been made by Mr. J. Day, a member of the Town Council of Dewsbury, with the object of promoting the erection of an infirmary for that town and district. Mr. Day has offered to subscribe 2,500*l.* if 50,000*l.* should be raised, 2,000*l.* if 40,000*l.* only be subscribed, and so on in proportion to 20,000*l.* The offer will be open for twelve months, and should the effort be accomplished, Mr. Day promises further to subscribe 50*l.* a-year towards the maintenance of the institution.

MR. JAMES STUART WORTLEY has addressed a second letter to the *Times*, with reference to the affairs of the Credit Foncier. He says, concurring with the view taken by Mr. J. Westmoreland and Mr. Lane:—"I have always been willing, and still am prepared, to surrender any portion of my receipts as a director, of which not only any court of law or equity might compel the payment, but which any properly-constituted tribunal of honour or commercial integrity might hold to be due from us."

THE NEW ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.—The Great Eastern will, in the course of a few weeks, again leave the Mersey on another cable-laying expedition, as we understand that she has been chartered by the new Franco-American Telegraph Company for the purpose of laying the new cable connecting France with America. The Great Eastern, which now lies in the Sloane, is being rapidly altered, so far as her internal arrangements are concerned, for the construction of the tanks for the reception of the cable. Sir James Anderson will command the vessel.

MR. MURPHY'S LECTURES PROHIBITED.—Mr. Murphy, whose lectures at Ashton, Bury, Bolton, Dukinfield, Stalybridge, and Rochdale, have been the cause of so much violence, riot, and tumult, has advertised a series of lectures at Manchester this week. In consequence of information sworn before the mayor on Saturday that such lectures would be likely to lead to a breach of the peace, a meeting of the city justices was held on Monday in the Mayor's Parlour, when it was decided that the lectures should not be allowed, and Captain Palin, the chief constable was directed to give public notice of the decision, and to take all necessary steps for preventing the lectures and for preserving the peace.

COMMERCIAL MORALITY.—A Parliamentary return has been published which is not very flattering to the metropolitan shopkeeper. It is a "black list" of the number of persons in the metropolitan parishes convicted during the six months between July, 1867, and January, 1868, of practically defrauding either themselves or their customers, the latter being the greatest sufferers, by the use of false weights and measures. The return contains a list of no less than

666 of this kind, and the practice, according to this statement, seems to have been most rife in the districts of Westminster, Deptford, Lewisham, and Woolwich. On the other hand, it would seem that the Paddington, Hanover-square, and some of the suburban divisions, have either enjoyed complete immunity from offences of this kind, or have not the advantage of a zealous police service for their detection. In the return for the division of St. Marylebone, which had thirty-four offenders, the names are entirely suppressed, on the ground that many of the offenders were not proved to have had a fraudulent intention.—*Express.*

THE NATIONAL REFORM UNION.—A meeting of the executive committee of the National Reform Union was held on Tuesday evening at Manchester, at which Mr. Jacob Bright, M.P., spoke at some length. He reviewed the principal events of the past Parliamentary session, and, coming to the subject of the general election, expressed great confidence as to its general results. England, he said, was to a large extent ruled by the press and by public meetings, and he would undertake to say that three-fourths of the new electors would enrol themselves with the Radical, or, as he preferred to call it, the National party of the country.

THE COMPOUNDING SYSTEM AND LOCAL RATES.—At the half-yearly meeting of the Improved Industrial Dwellings Company, on Friday, the chairman, Sir S. H. Waterlow, referred to the fact, that the abolition of the compounding system by the new Reform Act had resulted in a large increase of local taxation. The company had, however, determined to continue to pay the rates for the protection of the tenants, for if the "personal payment" principle had been carried out, there would have been a complete exodus from the buildings. Sir Sydney expressed a hope that Parliament would either return to the old system or revise the whole basis of local taxation, which now pressed unduly upon the working classes. A dividend of five per cent. out of the profits was declared. The company have erected 678 tenements, and are providing 100 more in Ebury-street. These will afford decent and comfortable homes to about as many separate families, or to 3,890 persons, reckoning five to each family.

THE ALLEGED ABDUCTION OF A YOUNG JEWESS.—In reference to the alleged abduction of Miss Esther Lyons by a Baptist minister, named Thomas, the *Cardiff and Merthyr Guardian* publishes the following letter from the young lady herself, which seems to set at rest the question of abduction. It is as follows:—"Sir,—I have seen a statement in your impression of the 8th August, purporting to come from my father, and containing charges against persons who have shown me great kindness since I knew them. It ill becomes me to enter into a public discussion with my father, but thus much I may publicly declare, that no one has ever made the slightest attempt or still less coerced me to leave my father's house. In order to prove this, I hereby declare, that I am quite ready to meet my father in the presence of some witnesses on his and my part, and to tell him what he already knows, that of my own accord I left his house, and that I have found in Jesus of Nazareth the Saviour of my soul, and have been baptized in His name. As soon as my father accepts my proposal, and will kindly say so in your paper, I will let him know the time and place of meeting.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, ESTHER LYONS. London, August 15th, 1868."

THE WILL OF THE REV. ROBERT VAUGHAN, D.D., late of 10, St. John's-terrace, Regent's Park, was proved in London, on the 10th ult., by the Rev. Edward White, of Tufnell Park, Holloway, and Mr. Robert Vaughan Tidman, of Finsbury-square. The personality was sworn under 5,000*l.* The testator was an able and distinguished writer and an Independent minister. He had been Professor of Ancient and Modern History in University College, London. He died, June 14 last, at Torquay, aged seventy-three. He bequeaths to his wife an immediate legacy of 100*l.*, his residence in Regent's Park, and the furniture, plate, books, and pictures for her life, and a life interest in his estate; and after her decease his daughters Emma and Octavia are to select furniture, the remainder, with the library, to be sold. His granddaughter, Louisa Buch, is to receive a legacy of 500*l.*; his grandson, Carl, 500*l.*; his daughter Susan, widow of the Rev. P. Williams, 500*l.*; and 200*l.* to each of his grandchildren Kate and Wycliffe Vaughan. The residence, St. John's-terrace, together with a legacy of 1,000*l.*, will revert to his daughter Louisa, wife of the Rev. N. Jennings, and their children; and his daughter Octavia is to receive the interest of 1,600*l.* To each of his executors he leaves 50*l.* The ultimate residue, real and personal, is to be divided amongst all his children.—*Illustrated London News.*

THE HARVEST.—The harvest is, with few exceptions, completed in Yorkshire, and the *Leeds Mercury* publishes reports as to the probable yield of the crops in the various districts of the county. "Upon a review of the whole of them," says our contemporary, "we think we can congratulate our readers upon the realisation of a much more satisfactory result than the most sanguine 'harvest prospects' which appeared a few weeks ago seemed to justify. Nearly all, if not all, the reports speak favourably of the wheat crop, which is described as being uniformly excellent in quality and abundant in yield. One mentions a sample which produced from six to seven per cent. above the standard bushel, and from thirteen to fourteen per cent. over last year's produce, the quantity being also one-fifth more. Barley is generally good in quality, but not equal to an average, and in oats the straw is noticed as being deficient. The injurious effects of drought upon the root crops have been still further aggravated by the

ravages of the fly, and turnips are almost uniformly said to be a failure; many farmers have re-sown in the hope of obtaining a fresh crop before winter. The pastures, however, which but a few weeks ago were scorched up, are beginning to exhibit a luxuriant appearance. Fruit appears to be abundant." At Mark-lane on Monday, the downward tendency which has characterised the corn trade during the past week or two was checked. There was a moderately good supply of new English wheat on sale, but the full prices of the previous Monday were in all cases realised, and in some instances there was an advance of 1s. per quarter. As on previous occasions, the quality of the new wheat was excellent.

THE CABMEN'S STRIKE.—At a large meeting of cab proprietors and drivers, held at the Agricultural Hall on Friday, with reference to "the railway privilege system," resolutions were adopted denouncing the system, and pledging the proprietors on and after Monday to refuse to enter any station or go on to any stand near the stations; further, not to apply for hire before eleven a.m. nor after two p.m.; and in the event of the railway companies still persisting in the present arrangement, to withdraw the cabs altogether from the streets after the expiration of six days. The railway companies consequently issued an order that privileged cabs, no matter to what station they belong, might ply for hire at any metropolitan railway terminus. The effect of this order has been to increase the supply of cabs at all the stations. At two o'clock yesterday morning all the non-privileged cabs in the streets were taken home, but long before the prescribed hour for commencing business—eleven o'clock—numbers of the same class of cab were plying for hire in the streets. Outside the various railway termini yesterday morning groups of cabmen really on strike were taking down the numbers of cabs whose owners and drivers were working them before eleven o'clock.

REFORM OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS.—Mr. Horsman has addressed a letter to the *Scotsman*, in which he urges a timely reform of the House of Lords, so that there shall be secured to that House a popularity and independence which shall make it a real power in the State. He wishes to prevent the threatened "shunting" of the Lords by the new Parliament, and he repeats the proposal he made a short time ago to deprive the bishops of their seats. He says that during a long Parliamentary life he has never known an instance in which the presence of bishops in Parliament has been of public advantage, while the injury caused to their dioceses by their long absences in London is notorious. He then proposes the creation of life peerages, to be limited to cases where the rule has already been established by political necessity, or where public opinion would endorse it as a national reward for personal distinction. His third proposal is to give to the Lords something of a representative character, and this he would effect by electing out of the present body one hundred peers to represent the rest, and he suggests that these, and the *ex-officio* peers, possibly including the judges, should compose the Senate. Mr. Horsman admits that he has as yet no satisfactory mode of election to propose; but he ventures to predict that, after the Irish Church reform of the Lords will become the question of the day.

THE SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANIES.—In presiding over the half-yearly meeting of the South-Eastern Railway Company on Thursday, Mr. Watkin made a long and animated reply to those who have lately criticised the administration of that undertaking. Was it a matter for surprise, inquired the hon. gentleman, that the shareholders, who had made everybody's fortune but their own, should at last have been aroused to ask the directors no longer to postpone a dividend for the sake of giving facilities for selling land at building prices for the profit of the company's calumniators? He challenged anyone to show that a single fare now charged was higher than the service performed fairly warranted. With respect to the complaint that the few had been allowed to tax the many, Mr. Watkin pointed out that the South-Eastern Company consisted of 6,000 men and women, who in many cases had invested their all in the line. These people were entitled to a dividend of at least five per cent. on their capital, yet during seventeen years they had received an average of 3½. 18s. 10d., and last year only three per cent. He regretted the loss of the fusion bill, by which the companies might have saved 100,000*l.* a year in needless waste of working, and concluded by congratulating the shareholders on having passed safely through the perils of the past four years. The report was adopted. The half-yearly meeting of the London, Chatham, and Dover Company was also held. The chairman, in alluding to the increase of fares, said the opinion of the directors was, not that they were charging too much now, but that the rates had previously been too low, and maintained that the outcry which had been raised had no foundation in justice. Still, the change was only an experiment, and if it failed there would be no difficulty in retracing their steps. At the meeting of the mortgagees of the same company on Friday, the chairman complained that the question had not been treated in a fair spirit, inasmuch as the writers in the press had held up railways as the property of the public, and directors as servants. However, as eighty per cent. of the passengers on this line travelled in third-class carriages, the directors had naturally concluded that the revenue would be increased by raising the fares. Referring to residential traffic, the chairman pointed out that the construction of suburban lines had greatly benefited the owners of land and houses, while the railway companies had reaped little or no advantage. The latter were carriers, and looked at the matter as one simply of

supply and demand. Some discussion took place as to whether the report should be referred back to the directors, but ultimately it was adopted.

Gleanings.

The Ariel, the first of the competing tea-clippers, has arrived off Falmouth from China.

A real estate agent informs the public that he has "a beautiful cottage for sale, containing ten rooms and eight acres of land."

A fossil elephant has been dug up at Easton, Md. Many portions are nearly perfect, including a tusk eight feet long.

On Friday there was a severe snowstorm at Braemar, N.B. The cold was intense, and the tops of all the hills were covered with snow to a considerable depth.

The rinderpest has again broken out in the southern provinces of Holland. Twenty beasts have been killed. It is nearly a year since the cattle-plague disappeared from the country.

Charles McNally, a Liverpool mechanic, has just performed the feat of walking 200 miles in three days. The scene of his exploit was the Liverpool and Preston turnpike-road.

In the garden of Mr. William Macpherson, Loch-side, there is at present an apple-tree in full blossom, after it has yielded an excellent crop of ripe apples of excellent quality.

At a recent Wesleyan bazaar held in High Wycombe, England, says the *Recorder*, was "the principal local curiosity—a drum used by the Mayor of Wycombe, in 1777, to drum Mr. Wesley out of the town referred to in Mr. Wesley's Journal."

A colonial farmer who had lost a sheep advertised thus:—"Lost or strayed from me a sheep all over with one leg was black and it had a black head. All persons shall receive a reward of five dollars to bring him to me. He was a she goat."

The Mayor of Norwich told his guests at the British Association banquet that a friend of his went into a barber's shop, and the worthy tradesman said, "I don't think much of this association; nine out of ten don't shave at all, and the others shave themselves."

A spendthrift had a fortune left him, and was advised by a friend to purchase a farm notorious for its neglected state and its sterility. "Why," said the spendthrift, "there is not a single passable road through the whole farm." "That is the very reason I wish you to buy it," said the other, "it will take the longer to run through it."

The street robbers of South London have hit upon a new dodge. A ruffian stoops down as if in the act of tying his bootlace, and then suddenly bouncing up butts his head violently into the stomach of a pedestrian who is passing by, and sends him head over heels. Confederates then pounce upon their victim, fleece him of his money and "bolt."

Some one who saw Gen. Grant at St. Louis superintending the loading of a couple of waggons with trunks to go out into the country, where his family were to spend the summer, reports him as saying:—"I have moved an army and I have moved a family, and of the two it is easier to move the army."—*New York Observer*.

According to Travers' circular, one of Wild's electro-magnetic machines has been fitted up at a sugar refinery in Whitechapel for the purpose of bleaching sugar. By sending a strong current of electricity through the sugar juice, it becomes bleached; and if this be true, the electric current may become a substitute for charcoal.

A PROFITABLE INVESTMENT.—The *Wiltshire Gloucester Standard* reports that a gentleman farmer purchased 2,000 lambs at 8s. 6d. a head, about four weeks ago, owing to the owners not having feed for them, the grass being everywhere burnt up. After he had had them in his possession a fortnight, he was offered 1*l.* per head for the 2,000—a good profit for the fortnight's keep.

DEADLY COSMETICS.—The run upon cosmetics has ceased since Mrs. Borradaile put Rachel into gaol and Lord Ranelagh into the witness-box, and some analytical chemist has discovered that there is even more lead in hair-dye than in the head which it adorns. The French tenor who plays Barbe Bleue has been poisoned at New York, by nibbling his cerulean moustaches, which had been dyed by some venomous drug.—*Star*.

CREDIT IN AMERICA.—The credit system has been carried to a pretty fine point in some of the rural districts of America, if we may judge from the following dialogue, said to have recently occurred between a customer and the proprietor:—"How's trade, squire?" "Well, cash trade's kinder dull now, major." "Dun anything yesterday?" "Wall, only a little—on credit. Aunt Betsy Pushall has borted an egg's worth of tea, and got trusted for it till her speckled pullet lays."

AN ELECTRIC CLOCK has been uncovered upon the commanding elevation of the offices of the Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Company, at the junction of Cornhill and Lombard-street, where it forms one of the most conspicuous objects in the City of London. By an ingenious apparatus the gas is turned off every morning and evening two minutes earlier and two minutes later every day as the days are lengthening or shortening, and it is adjustable as well for the foggy days of November as for the light nights of summer.

FASHIONS OF OUR GREAT-GRANDFATHERS.—A fashion had then lately been started in Bond-street, of oiling a gentleman's coat and cold-pressing it. This gave it a high gloss; but as every particle of dust stuck to it, the coat, after it had been worn three or four times, was unfit to be seen. Fashion regu-

lated whether a coat should be worn open, or buttoned; and if buttoned, whether by one button or two, and by which. Sometimes a cane was to be carried, sometimes a club, sometimes a common twig. At one time every man walked the streets with his hands in his coat pockets.—*Dickens's All the Year Round*.

INFLUENCE OF THE SOIL ON THE HUMAN RACE.—A novel question has arisen among anthropologists as to the effect of soil on character. The question is asked whether, for example, the character of the Scotch is an expression of the soil of Scotland? Mr. Cleghorn advances an opinion that it is. He finds, that wherever the boulder clay exists in Caithness there are the best men, the best cattle, and the best cereals; and where it is absent these are all of a miserable description. Proceeding to a larger field of observation, he shows that the area of the boulder clay divides Scotland into two well-marked regions, an eastern and a western, the former being that of the desirable soil. The man of eastern Scotland is taller and bigger-headed than the man of the west. The death-rate is lower in the east than in the west, as is the birth-rate, in accordance with the law that gives to poor communities increase, and causes luxury to be barren. He sums up, as his opinion, that the soil has determined the food, the food has made the race, determined the birth-rate, its death-rate, its language, and religion; therefore, that it must be allowed that the character of the Scotch is the expression of the soil of Scotland.—*Builder*.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

LEWIS.—August 24, the wife of the Rev. G. Lewis, of Margate, of a son.

THOMAS.—August 24, at 29, Queen's-terrace, St. John's-wood, London, the wife of the Rev. John Thomas, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BLAKE-FEWSTER.—August 19, at the Congregational church, Lower Forest-green, Nallsworth, by the Rev. R. H. Forsyth, of London, assisted by the Rev. J. Harcourt, of Brompton, uncles of the bride, the Rev. A. G. Blake, of the above place, to Martha, only daughter of Anthony B. Fewster, of Chestnut-hill, Nallsworth.

GREEN-PHILLIPS.—August 25, at the Baptist chapel, Milford, by the Rev. D. George, assisted by the Rev. J. W. Lance, of Newport, Monmouthshire, John H. Green, iron merchant and wharfinger, Newport, Monmouthshire, to Mary, youngest daughter of John Phillips, Esq., Sandy Haven House, near Milford, S.W. No cards.

MARR-WILLIS.—August 25, at the Wicker Congregational church, Sheffield, by the Rev. James Smith, M.A., Samuel, eldest son of Mr. Thomas Marr, to Deborah, only daughter of Mr. Joseph Willis, both of that town.

MURHEAD-JOHNSTONE.—August 25, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Sheffield, by the Rev. John Atkinson, of Pudsey, uncle of the bridegroom, Mr. James Murhead, of Dalkeith, N.B., to Anna, youngest daughter of the late Mr. William Johnstone, of Sheffield.

DUNN-GLOVER.—August 25, at the Congregational chapel, Basingstoke, by the Rev. Norman Glas, F.G.S., Mr. George F. Dunn, to Sarah Jane, second daughter of Mr. William Glover.

PERCY-SMITH.—August 25, at Townhead-street Chapel, Sheffield, by the Rev. C. Short, M.A., Mr. W. Rawson Percy, of Lincoln, to Miss Sarah Smith, of Sheffield.

CHARLWOOD-MOULSON.—August 25, at Lion Chapel, Bradford, by the Rev. G. Edmondson, Mr. Henry Charlwood, of Bradford, to Miss Annie Maria Moulson, of Horton.

BUCKLEY-HEYS.—August 26, at the Congregational church, Beesac-o'-th'-Barn, by the Rev. A. Anderson, Mr. John Buckley, of Audenshaw, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. Henry Heys, of Hollinhurst House, Radcliffe.

WARD-SKIPWITH.—August 26, at the Independent chapel, Dronfield, George, second son of the late Mr. George Ward, of the firm of Ward and Co., to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. John Skipwith, Farnes Farm, both of Dronfield.

SMITH-MUNDY.—August 26, at Highbury Chapel, Bristol, by the Rev. David Thomas, assisted by the Rev. T. A. Wheeler, William Henry, third son of Mr. James Smith, of Belgrave-villas, Cotham grove, Bristol, to Emma Odgers, youngest daughter of Mr. Thomas G. Mundy.

MARTIN-FIGDEN.—August 26, at the Independent chapel, Alton, by the Rev. F. M. Holmes, Mr. E. Martin, of London, to Miss E. Figden, of Alton.

MALCOLM-JUST.—August 27, at the Presbyterian church, Sutton, Cheshire, by the Rev. A. D. Davidson, D.D., Aberdeen, assisted by the Rev. W. G. Fraser, Sutton, William Alfred, son of the late G. Malcolm, Esq., to Elizabeth Mitchell, eldest daughter of W. Just, Esq., managing director of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, Liverpool.

PEACOCK-RUSK.—August 27, at Fetter-lane Chapel, by the Rev. John Spurgeon, William Henry Peacock, of Farnival's-inn, to Elizabeth Sarah, only daughter of John James and Elizabeth Rusk, of 55, High Holborn.

HARDY-BRADY.—August 27, at the Friends' Meeting-house, Pontefract, Mr. J. P. Hardy, Banbury, to Ellen, daughter of Mr. Josiah Brady, of Pontefract.

LYON-PRIEST.—August 31, at Clapham Presbyterian church, by the Rev. Dr. Macfarlane, Jeremiah, youngest son of Mr. H. L. Lyon, of Hartley-row, Hants, to Louisa Sarah, youngest daughter of Mr. John Priest, of Loughborough Park, Brixton, S.W. No cards.

BROWNING-CORNER.—September 1, at Arley Chapel, by the Rev. Samuel Hebditch, Herbert, fourth son of Charles Browning, Esq., M.D., of Malda-hill, London, to Emily, only daughter of George Corner, Esq., of Elton-terrace, Bristol. No cards.

SEAVILLE-CROWLY.—September 1, at the Independent chapel, Alton, by the Rev. J. Whiting, of Oroydon, the Rev. P. Seaville, late of Swanage, to Miss Edith Crowley, Alton.

DEATHS.

JAMES.—August 12, at Little Haven, Pembrokeshire, after a long illness, borne with a calm resignation to the Divine will, Margaret, the beloved wife of the Rev. Theophilus James, Independent minister of the above place.

AYLMER.—FRANKS.—August 20, in the awful catastrophe on the Chester and Holyhead Railway, near Abergele, North Wales, J. H. Aylmer, Esq., of Walworth Castle, in the county of Durham, J.P. and D.L., aged fifty-six; Rosanna Louisa, his wife, Arthur Fitzgerald Harrison, their eldest son, aged eighteen years; and Rosanna Franks, their cousin, daughter of R. Franks, Esq., secretary to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, Ireland.

PAYNE.—August 20, at Southend, Essex, Mary Hooker, youngest daughter of Mr. J. G. Payne, aged five years.

STARLING.—August 24, at Saffron Walden, Essex, after a long and painful illness, Rebekah, the beloved wife of James Starling, Esq., in the sixty-fifth year of her age.

MALING.—August 26, at Royston, Cambs, in the sixty-seventh year of her age, Mary Jameson Maling, widow of the late Thomas Maling, and daughter of James Butler, of the same place, long since deceased.
HADFIELD.—August 27, at Southport, aged eighty, Lydia, the wife of George Hadfield, Esq., M.P., of Victoria Park, Manchester.
MILLAR.—August 29, at No. 4, Holland-place, Brixton-road, Elizabeth, the much-loved wife of Mr. R. J. Millar.
OFFOR.—August 30, at Peak-hill Villa, Sydenham, Ethel, infant daughter of George Offor, Esq.
FLETCHER.—August 29, at Uttoxeter, Mary, the wife of Samuel Richard Fletcher, and daughter of the late John Vernon, aged twenty-six.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32 for the week ending Wednesday, Aug. 26.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued £34,617,335 Government Debt £11,015,100
 Other Securities .. 3,984,909
 Gold Coin & Bullion 19,617,335

£34,617,335 £34,617,335

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital £14,558,000 Government Securities (inc. dead weight annuity) £18,790,181
 Reserves 8,331,487
 Public Deposits 2,979,410 Other Securities .. 15,597,078
 Other Deposits 20,338,830 Notes 10,661,705
 Seven Day and other Bills 502,953 Gold & Silver Coin 1,156,766
 £41,205,680 £41,205,680

August 27, 1868. GEORGE FORBES, Chief Cashier.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Aug. 31.

There was a moderate supply of English wheat to this morning's market, which was held for an advance of 1s per qr. on the rates of this day's night. Buyers were not generally disposed to pay more money, consequently only a portion of the supply was disposed of. Foreign met a fair retail inquiry at late quotations. Barley of fine quality rather dearer; other sorts unchanged. Beans and peas without alteration. Notwithstanding the arrival of foreign oats for the week is large, the trade has been active to-day, and all good samples have met a free sale at the full prices of this day week. Secondary descriptions have also been taken to a fair extent on quite as good terms to the seller.

CURRENT PRICES.

| WHEAT— | | Per Qr. | | | | Per Qr. | |
|--------------------|--------|---------|----|-------------------|----------|---------|----|
| | | s. | d. | | | s. | d. |
| Essex and Kent, | | | | PEAS— | | | |
| red, old | — to — | | | Grey | 43 to 45 | | |
| Ditto new | 55 58 | | | Maple | 46 48 | | |
| White, old | — — | | | White | 43 46 | | |
| „ new | 58 61 | | | Boilers | 42 46 | | |
| Foreign red | 58 62 | | | Foreign, white .. | — — | | |
| „ white | 61 66 | | | | | | |
| BARLEY— | | | | RYE | 40 42 | | |
| English malting .. | 54 55 | | | | | | |
| Chevalier | 40 44 | | | OATS— | | | |
| Distilling | 36 40 | | | English feed .. | 37 34 | | |
| Foreign | 33 37 | | | „ potatoes .. | 31 36 | | |
| MALT— | | | | Scotch feed .. | — — | | |
| Pale | — — | | | „ potatoes .. | — — | | |
| Chevalier | — — | | | Irish black .. | 22 25 | | |
| Brown | 54 62 | | | „ white | 22 25 | | |
| BRANDS— | | | | Foreign feed .. | 24 27 | | |
| Ticks | 41 46 | | | FLOUR— | | | |
| Harrow | 45 48 | | | Town made .. | 48 54 | | |
| Small | — — | | | Country Marks .. | 41 43 | | |
| Egyptian | 44 45 | | | Norfolk & Suffolk | 39 41 | | |

BREAD.—LONDON, Saturday, Aug. 29.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 8d. to 9d.; household ditto, 7d. to 8d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET.

LONDON, Monday, Aug. 31.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 4,542 head. At the corresponding period in 1867 we received 10,789; in 1866, 16,854; in 1865, 26,308; in 1864, 20,533; and in 1863, 19,381 head. The supply of foreign stock on sale here to-day was very moderate, from the circumstances that it is now compulsory to slaughter all foreign sheep at the place of landing. From our own grazing districts the arrivals of beasts fresh up this morning were rather extensive, but the general quality of the stock was only middling. The few prime on offer were in steady request, at very full prices. Inferior stock was inactive, at late rates. A very few superior Soths, crosses, &c., sold at 5s. 6d. per 8lbs.; but the general top figure was 5s. 6d. From Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire we received about 3,600 shorthorns; and from other parts of England, 600 various breeds; from Scotland, 44 Soths and crosses; and from Ireland, 90 oxen, &c. There was about an average abow of sheep in the pens in somewhat improved condition. Nearly all breeds met a slow inquiry at, compared with Monday last, a decline in the quotations of 2d. per 8lbs. The best Downs and half-breeds sold at 5s. 4d. per 8lbs. The lamb season is now over. The few lambs in the market sold at mutton prices. Calves were in moderate supply and sluggish request, on rather lower terms. Prime small pigs were firm in price; but large hogs were very dull. The supply was by no means extensive.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Oke.

| s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. |
|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Inf. coarse beasts | 3 4 to 3 6 | Prime Southdown | 5 2 to 5 4 |
| Second quality | 3 3 to 3 5 | Lambs | 0 0 to 0 0 |
| Prime large oxen | 4 3 to 4 5 | Lge. coarse calves | 3 6 to 4 4 |
| Prime Soths, &c. | 5 4 to 5 6 | Prime small .. | 4 6 to 5 0 |
| Coarse inf. sheep | 3 4 to 3 10 | Large hogs .. | 3 4 to 3 8 |
| Second quality | 4 0 to 4 4 | Neatam. porkers | 3 10 to 4 4 |
| Pr. coarse woolled | 4 6 to 5 0 | | |

Suckling calves, 22s. to 36s.; and quarter-old store pigs, 22s. to 36s. each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Aug. 31.

The supplies of meat on sale in these markets are only moderate. On the whole, the trade is steady at our quotations. Last week's imports into London were 25 packages from Rotterdam.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

| s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. |
|------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| Inferior beef .. | 3 2 to 3 6 | Inf. mutton .. | 3 4 to 4 0 |
| Middling ditto | 3 3 to 3 7 | Middling ditto | 4 2 to 4 4 |
| Prime large do. | 4 2 to 4 6 | Prime ditto .. | 4 6 to 4 8 |
| Do. small do. | 4 3 to 4 10 | Veal | 3 4 to 4 8 |
| Large pork .. | 3 2 to 3 8 | Small pork .. | 3 10 to 4 6 |

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, LONDON, Saturday, Aug. 29.—Supplies continue short, particularly as regards good vegetables, which are still realising high prices. Out-door fruit, it is true, has been more plentiful, but the surplus consists chiefly of windfalls, brown down during the strong sales which occurred on Saturday and Sunday last. Good

pinces are rather more in request. Peas, and plums are sufficient for the demand. Heavy consignments continue to be received from the continent. Kent filberts are coming in in abundance. Potatoes are small in size, and many of them are badly diseased. Flowers chiefly consist of orchids, balsams, pelargoniums, fuchsias, mignonettes, and roses.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, Aug. 31.—Picking is now general throughout the plantations, and a fair supply of the new growth has been received, but owing to the unusually early character of the season, buyers are restricting their operations to the execution of small consumptive orders, prices ranging from 70s. to 147s. Continental advices are more favourable, and a few parcels of new have been offered at 112s. to 126s., but the quality cannot be considered good. New York advices to the 17th inst. report the market as very dull, the prospects of the new crop being now in favour of a yield of fair quality, and in excess of the requirements of the American brewers.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Aug. 30.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 1,188 firkins butter, and 2,114 bales bacon, and from foreign ports, 23,413 casks, &c., butter, and 1,809 bales bacon. The arrivals of foreign butter early in the week being moderate, prices advanced considerably, best Dutch to 140s., but it afterwards declined to 134s. Irish sold slowly at an advance of 2s. per cwt. The bacon market ruled very firm; prime 80s. f. o. b.: the supplies about equal to the demand.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Aug. 31.—The supplies of potatoes on sale at these markets are good. On the whole a fair average business has been transacted, at our quotations. The import into London last week consisted of 7,939 sacks, 4,186 bags, 82 baskets from Dunkirk; 52 sacks, 100 bags, Boulogne; 20 sacks Ostend, 240 boxes 31 tons Caen, 40 tons Pont Labbe, 40 bags Amsterdam, 21 casks Rotterdam, and 783 bags Cronstadt. English Regents 6s. to 10s. per cwt., Shaws 5s. to 7s. ditto, Jersey 5s. to 6s. ditto, and French 5s. to 6s. ditto.

SEED, Monday, Aug. 31.—Fine red cloverseed continues to creep up in value, and sells steadier, as it appears. White samples were fully as dear. Trefoil was unaltered in price. Trifolium still wanted, but holders accept fair bids, not willing to have any left over at the recently enhanced rates. White mustard seed was held higher for sowing. Winter tares were more plentiful, and rather cheaper. Canary seed remains scarce and very dear.

WOOL, Monday, Aug. 31.—The great fall in the value of colonial produce has had a most depressing influence on the English wool market. There has been scarcely any inquiry, and our quotations must be considered altogether nominal. Holders would be willing to submit to some reduction to effect sales, stocks being on the increase.

OIL, Monday, August 31.—Lined oil has ruled firm, at enhanced rates; whilst Rape has given way in value. Olive oils are quiet, but prices are supported. Cocoa-nut and palm have sold on former terms. Not much business has been doing in either petroleum or turpentine.

TALLOW, Monday, August 31.—The market is firm, at 45s. P.Y.C., on the spot. Town tallow is 45s. 3d. net cash.

COAL, Monday, August 31.—Market with an upward tendency. Wallend Hettens 18s., Haswell 19s., Lambtons 18s. 6d., Hetton Lyons 16s. 3d., New Belmont 16s. 6d., Caradoc 18s. 6d., Original Hartlepool 19s., Hartlepool 18. 3d., Kelloe 16s. 2d., Hough Hall 18s., East Hartlepool 18s. 6d., Eden Main 17s., Gorforth 16s. 6d., Hartleys 15s. 9d., Elliotts 17s. 6d. Ships fresh arrived, 80; ships left from last day, 8; ships at sea, 30.

Advertisements.

REGISTRATION.—BOROUGH of HACKNEY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that ALGERNON BATHURST, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, having been appointed by the Lord Chief Justice of England to revise the List of Voters for the Borough of Hackney, will hold his Court for that purpose in the New Town Hall, Hackney, situate within the said Borough, on Tuesday, the 16th day of September instant, and on the four following days, unless the Revision shall be sooner completed, commencing each day at Ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

The Lists will be taken in the following order:—
 ST. JOHN AT HACKNEY, on Tuesday, the 15th.
 ST. LEONARD, SHOREDITCH, not before Wednesday, the 16th.
 ST. MATTHEW, BETHNAL GREEN, not before Thursday, the 17th.

THE LODGER CLAIMS will not be taken before Twelve o'clock on either of these days.

The Returning Officer and Overseers of the respective Parishes within the said Borough are required to attend the Court of the Revising Barrister, and at the opening of the said Court to deliver to the Revising Barrister the List of Voters made by them respectively, and also all the original Notices of Claims and Objections received by them, and to produce all Rate-Books, Documents, Papers, and Writings, in their possession, custody, or power, touching any matter necessary for Revising the respective Lists of Voters.

Dated this 1st day of September, 1868.

HENRY CHILD,

Returning Officer for the said Borough.
 King Edward's-road, Hackney, and No. 2, Paul's Bakehouse-court, Doctors' Commons, City.

THE BEALES NATIONAL TESTIMONIAL FUND.

Offices: Somerset Chambers, 151, Strand, London, W.C.
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 The object of this movement is to raise a NATIONAL FUND of 10,000l. for presentation to Mr. EDMOND BEALES, M.A., in recognition of his services and sacrifices in the cause of Parliamentary Reform. The manner in which he led the working classes throughout the country to take up the challenge of apathy, ignorance, and venality so rudely thrown at them by the opponents of their rights, and to evoke a triumphant refutation of those charges; the ability, courage, and disinterestedness he evinced, and the powerful and salutary influences he exercised, during a period of profound national agitation—when passions ran high, and irreparable mischief might have been committed but for his tact, zeal, and devotedness—entitle him to the regard and substantial gratitude of all grades of Liberals in the country, and all friends of progress everywhere.

NOTE.—It is understood that the supporters of this movement do not thereby express any particular political opinion. PRESIDENT: Not yet elected.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Bright, John, M.P. Holden, Isaac, M.P.
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 Mill, John Stuart, M.P. Whitworth, Benjamin, M.P.
 Dixon, George, M.P. Whalley, G. H., M.P.
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Chairman of Committee.—D. Morgan Thomas The Temple.
 The General Committee consists of about 200 gentlemen of position and influence, and is being daily increased.

Subscriptions, suggestions, and applications for subscription sheets to be addressed to,

L. C. ALEXANDER, Sec.

151, Strand, W.C.

HACKNEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, and SOCIETY for the PROPAGATION of the GOSPEL.

The Annual Devotional Service in connexion with the commencement of the Session, will be held at the SEMINARY, WELL-STREET, HACKNEY, on TUESDAY NEXT, the 8th September, at Seven o'clock. An Address will be delivered by the Rev. WILLIAM ROBERTS, Minister of the Congregational Church, Upper Holloway.

Tea will be provided at Six o'clock.

The Students will Re-assemble on FRIDAY, September 4th. Applications for supplies after that date to be made to the Rev. S. McAll, at the Seminary, Well-street, Hackney, N.E.

J. E. RICHARDS, Secretary.

August 31, 1868.

STOCKWELL ORPHANAGE, CLAPHAM-ROAD.

A BAZAAR in AID of the above INSTITUTION will be held in the GROUNDS at STOCKWELL on TUESDAY, Sept. 8th, WEDNESDAY, Sept. 9th, THURSDAY, Sept. 10th, and FRIDAY, Sept. 11th.

The Bazaar will be opened at Twelve o'clock each day. Admission, One Shilling.

Each evening, at Seven o'clock, a LECTURE will be delivered by C. H. SPURGEON in the Schoolroom of the Institution. Subject, on Tuesday evening, "Sermons in Candles," with illustrations.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—

WANTED in a genteel HOMOEOPATHIC PHARMACY, a respectable and well-educated YOUTH as an APPRENTICE. A member of a Christian family preferred. Address, George Cheverton, Wholesale and Retail Homoeopathic Chemist, High-street, Tunbridge Wells.

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a Select and Comfortable HOME for YOUNG GENTLEMEN, in a most salubrious part of the country, twenty miles from London. For prospectus apply to Mr. Blackshaw, Metropolitan Tabernacle, Newington, S.

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machinery of which is worked by Electricity, removed from Her Majesty's Opera, by Messrs. Bryceson, to the ROYAL POLYTECHNIC, to increase the Musical Attractions of this Institution. All the other Scientific Lectures, Musical Entertainments, and Homely Spiritual Manifestations, as usual. Admission to the whole, 1s. Open from 12 to 5 and 7 to 10. Reserved seats, 6d.

THE Misses HEWITT RECEIVE a

LIMITED NUMBER of YOUNG LADIES to board and educate.

The next TERM will COMMENCE on MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

References are kindly permitted to the Rev. E. White; the Rev. F. Tucker; and the parents of pupils.

36, Hilldrop-road, Cammen-road.

LADIES' COLLEGE, ANGLESEA HOUSE, IPSWICH.

The next Term will commence on Tuesday, September 15th. For terms and further particulars, apply to the MISSES BUTLER.

SYDENHAM.—GLENLYON HOUSE, WEST-HILL.

Miss SYKES'S Pupils will REASSEMBLE on the 15th of September.

Terms and references will be supplied on application to those parents who wish to secure for their daughters a sound and liberal education with particular attention to their health and comfort. Eminent professors are in regular attendance.

HOWARD HOUSE SCHOOL, Thame, near

Oxford, has been conducted by Mr. MARSH for upwards of 25 years. It is a practical commercial school, giving more than ordinary attention to subjects required in business. In 1851 the pupils prepared for the Queen's Penmaker, Joseph Gillott, Esq., of Birmingham, the only specimens of penmanship which were received in the world's exhibition. During the Exhibition of 1862 the pupils showed the best specimens of bookkeeping, commercial correspondence, and drawing, in the Crystal Palace. This School has been enlarged four times during the above period, and new premises are now being built, consisting of large school room, six class-rooms, bath-room, dining-hall, and dormitories. Mr. Marsh is assisted by six resident masters and two lady assistants. Prospectuses, with full particulars, on application.

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LEICESTER.—Mr. FRANKLIN receives Pupils at his long-established School. His boys have the advantage of homelike arrangements and care. The teaching is quite of the first class. Several Pupils each year pass the University local examinations. Reference may be made to the Hon. Justice Mellor, and to numbers of other gentlemen whose sons have been educated by Mr. Franklin. Terms Fifty and Sixty Guineas, according to age on entering.

THE VALE ACADEMY, RAMSGATE.

PRINCIPAL—MR. M. JACKSON.

The next Term will commence on TUESDAY, Sept. 8th.

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WHEAT PHOSPHATES in CHILDREN'S FOOD promote the growth of the Teeth, and prevent premature decay. CHAPMAN and Co.'s Patent Entire Wheat Flour prepared for Nursery Use, contains all the constituents of the grain so essential to good nutrition, equally adapted for Infants, and for making Puddings, &c., for growing children. In packets, 3d., 6d., and 1s.; Tins, 3s.; of all Chemists and Grocers. St. James's Mills, Hatcham, S.E.

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172, New Bond-street, London, and of all Chemists.

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